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603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

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(03) 605 4259 (advertising)

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ODZAKOV, YANKOS

TOP POLL

Zarko Odzakov and Charlie Yankos of Australia, and centre back Nene of Vasco Da Gama were the best players of the international series won by the Socceroos.

They emerged with the best average rating over the matches they played, according to points awarded by "Soccer Action".

Odzakov (Sydney Croatia) topped the list with an average rating of 8.33, but he played only three games while Yankos (Heidelberg-Alexander) and Nene, who both rated 8.0, played in all four matches.

Welsh international left back Mark Bowen of Spurs had the highest individual rating of 8.5 but he played only two matches, so he cannot be considered in a "player of the series" poll. Massimo Mauro of Udinese was the only player to receive a 10-rating for one match (v Spurs).

Alan Davidson of Australia was

the best player of the 1984 world series, against Atromitos, Juventus, Glasgow Rangers, Manchester United and Nottingham Forest.

The emergence of Yankos and Odzakov this time and Davidson last year is further evidence of the remarkable improvement shown by the Socceroos.

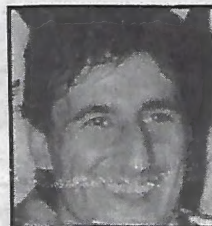
Top scorer of the international series was Roberto Dinamite (Vasco Da Gama) who finished with three.

International series statistics

BEST PLAYERS

At least three games:

8.33 Zarko Odzakov (Australia)
8.0 Charlie Yankos (Australia)
Nene (Vasco Da Gama)



• Charlie Yankos

7.75 Oscar Crino (Australia)
Donato (Vasco Da Gama)
Vitor (Vasco Da Gama)
Gilberto (Vasco Da Gama)
7.66 Terry Greedy (Australia)
David Ratcliffe (Australia)
Alistair Dick (Spurs)
Massimo Mauro (Udinese)

Team-by-team breakdown:



• Zarko Odzakov

AUSTRALIA

Four games:

8.0 Charlie Yankos
7.75 Oscar Crino
7.25 Graham Jennings
Marshall Soper
7.0 Ken Murphy
6.5 John Kosmina

Continued P.3



• Marconi, from left, standing: Craig Mason, Geoff Gunning, Steve Calderan, Mark Jankovics, Alex McPherson, Tony Henderson, Paul Carter. Front: Ian Gray, Martin Driene, Lee Sterrey, David Lowe, Rod Brown, Peter Tredinnick. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

100's the mark for Jankovics

Ask Mark Jankovics whether Marconi can overhaul Sydney Croatia and Sydney Hakoah, and he says: "Without doubt. And we'll start by beating Hakoah on Saturday."

Jankovics has two aims this year — to win the Australian championship, and to be the first NSL goalscorer to reach the 100-mark.

He acknowledges that with 91 league goals, he's eight behind John Kosmina (Hakoah) and five behind Gary Cole (Makedonia), but he's not worried.

"I'll score three quick hat-tricks," he says.

Will the first of them be against Hakoah at the Sydney Athletic Field on Monday? "It would be nice. Sure. I've always scored against Steve O'Connor anyway."

Sydney Croatia and Sydney Hakoah appeared to have no challengers until a few weeks ago, when it became evident that Marconi was creeping up stealthily.

The strength of the Marconi team is the axis comprising striker Jankovics, 29, central midfielder Craig Mason, 28, and centre back Tony Henderson, 31 — three of the most experienced players in the NSL.

"Henderson's position sense has improved over the years and he's organising the defence perfectly. What's more he doesn't take as many chances anymore, and he's very consistent," Jankovics says.

"Mason is the rock in midfield. While Ian Gray and Peter Tredinnick create havoc on the flanks with their attacking play, Mason hangs back as the steady influence."

Of his own form, Jankovics says, "I'm feeling more confident than ever in my own ability. I make a lot of chances for myself in the box, and I always go out there convinced I'm going to score. Having support from Rod Brown and David Lowe up front helps tremendously. Of course, not to mention Ian Gray and Tredinnick coming from the midfield and Paul Carter overlapping on the right."

Continued page 12

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Memories short at Green Gully

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

There were those at Green Gully who celebrated last week when Bobby McLachlan resigned as coach and was replaced by Steve Short. But that comes as no surprise to McLachlan, who led the club to successive State League titles and filled its trophy cabinet with cups.

"Some people have short memories," said McLachlan, no pun intended.

"I've got to choose my words carefully here because I don't want this to sound like sour grapes. I've had some of my most marvellous moments in the game at Gully and that's the way I'll always remember the club."

"You find that when you're having great success, the people in the wings can't do anything. But once things start to founder a wee bit, these people are quick to put the boot in."

"The crazy thing is that we're only in our second year in the National League. South Melbourne Hellas has been there since 1977 and it took them until last year to win the championship. Hellas had plenty of heartaches along



• Bobby McLachlan as 1982 Victorian Coach of the Year

the way. They suffered the humiliation of being relegated then re-elected to the National League in 1979.

"No way will Green Gully be relegated. The players are too good for that. They're really close to being a top side. The number one priority, in my opinion, is getting a first rate sweeper. I wish Stevie (Short) and the players all the best. Some of the players are down in confidence but that will change."

Continued page 12

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In Sydney we often tend to be a trifle arrogant about matters of football. Well, if not arrogant, at least conceited, with a "how to be the centre of the universe" syndrome.

I guess this stems from living in this truly splendid, beautiful city. It sort of leads you to believe that Sydney must be superior in every way. In Soccer, too.

Of course, this belief has gained a lot of credence over recent years, with Sydney Hakoah winning one NSL title after another. And when it wasn't Hakoah, it was St. George of Marconi.

Then the national team; for years it's been built on Sydney players. More precisely, on players playing for Sydney clubs.

What's that if not further proof of Sydney's superiority?

That's how far I got with this fantasising the other day when I re-read the Soccerro team line-ups at the recent internationals.

Packed with Sydney players, I smiled. As usual!

True, perhaps the most gifted one — my kind of player — is from Melbourne. I'm referring to Osear Crino.

But this could be a temporary setback only. After all, Atti Abonyi, the previous most skilful player in the Soccerro team was from



Andrew Dettre

Surprise: Sydney's not the centre of the universe

Melbourne, too, before he saw the light and shifted here. As did many, many others before him and after him.

It's also true that my earlier favorites, John Perin and Gary Marocchi weren't from Sydney either. Perin is a South Australian, Marocchi a West Australian.

But what about the others? Well, I mean, yes, some are Sydney boys.

Not Terry Greedy who's from the country, Grafton, I think, maybe Armidale. And not Gerry Gomez who is from Costa Rica. But Graham Jennings and Marshall Soper... well, no: both are from Newcastle. And David Ratcliffe? England, around Leeds somewhere.

Joe Watson is a Scot. Frank Farina is a Queenslander, Alex Robertson also a Scot and John Kosmina a South Australian.

These are the 'Sydney boys'.

But three of them do hail from Sydney, or so I believe: Steve O'Connor, Jim Patikas and Rod Brown. Still don't be surprised if one or more turn out to be neophytes, ring-ins from somewhere else.

That much for the Sydney contingent. Three. Perhaps less.

On the other hand, as I said, there is Sydney Hakoah, the perennial champion. Need any more be said?

I'd hate to say or write anything that would dim

but I must make a confession here.

Since the start of the NSL, there have been two teams that I really admired, for different reasons.

The first was Adelaide Juventus, in 1977 when Lister, Perin, Marocchi, Nyskohus, Muniz, Deans and Melta absolutely thrilled us with many of their performances.

I doubt if we have had a classier team since then; certainly none that played soccer with more gusto, more flair — and more reminiscent of the great Prague of the 1930-40 period.

The other team that really appealed to me was Heidelberg, under Len McKendry, about 1979-80 vintage.

There was a 'method team' if I ever saw one — in fact, the only one in the NSL.

McKendry developed his method on such fine players as Bannan, Tansey, Campbell, Rooney and Cole. Week after month, Heidelberg played the same type of football: solid, resourceful, systematic, often brilliant.

Once again, there has been no other team since the days of the great Heidelberg that would have come near that standard — not Hakoah, not South Melbourne Hellas, not the Croats.

And the pity of it is — neither of these two teams was from Sydney...

But still, we'll go on in Sydney, pretending that this is the be all and end all of Oz soccer.

Oh, well, at least we have one very special talent. We know how to lure inter-staters to Sydney...

PAIN AND BAN HAUNT 'MITCH'

A groin injury has put David Mitchell in doubt for the next international series, against AEK Athens, PSV Eindhoven and Red Star Belgrade.

He also has a 12-month suspension hanging over his head. The suspension applies only to Asia, but there is a possibility that FIFA may extend it to apply overseas.

Mitchell, however, hopes that Seiko, the club for which he played in Hong Kong, will succeed in an appeal against the 12-month suspension.

Another Seiko player, and two from China's Liaoning also were banned from 12 months over incidents in an Asian Super Club Championship match during which pandemonium reigned.



David Mitchell (right) in action for the Soccerroos.

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Mitchell, who has scored nine goals in 21 games for Australia, had a groin operation in Adelaide last year, but the injury still is troubling him. He saw a specialist in Melbourne last week and was expecting to hear yesterday (Tuesday) whether he needed a second operation.

The operation would keep him out of action for about five weeks.

Meanwhile, he was planning to see out the season with Adelaide City Juventus, and to play at least in Australia's World Cup qualifying matches. If the Soccerroos qualify for the finals, he will stay with Adelaide City Juventus, but if they fail, he will return to Europe and play perhaps in Holland.

George Knobel, who coached Seiko, told Mitchell he easily could find him a club in the Dutch First Division.

Rangers earlier this year, Mitchell had the option of finishing the season with Watford, so a move to London remains a possibility.

Meanwhile, back to that Seiko-Liaoning brawl. "I was chasing a guy who had hacked our goalkeeper and although there were fights all around me, it was me the TV camera picked out. The Asian Confederation went by the video evidence, and suspended me even though I hadn't even hit anyone."

"Things got so bad that one of our substitute players came off the bench, onto the pitch, carrying a corner flag, ready to belt someone."

Mitchell would not have gone to Hong Kong had it not been for a contract wrangle with Sydney Hakoah, the club which sold him to Glasgow Rangers. Under the transfer agreement Mitchell was to

revert to being a Hakoah player if he came back from Scotland within two years. When he did return, he wanted to play for Adelaide Juventus but Hakoah asked for a transfer fee.

He enjoyed the Hong Kong experience but said that a shortage of overseas stars had caused the standard to fall. "Each club was allowed only three foreigners, but for next season they want to increase it to six, which should help," he said. "Also, they want to reduce the league to eight teams."

With Mitchell's help, Seiko won the league championship by two points, and also the league Cup. His team-mates included former Dutch international Rene van der Kerhof and winger Peter Bodack who played for Coventry, Manchester City and Manchester United.

Mitchell played 16 senior games for Rangers last season, and 18 the season before. In all, counting appearances as a substitute, he took the field 64 times for Rangers and scored 24 goals, but the manager, Jock Wallace, didn't see him as a regular. "He just didn't fancy me as a player. He was a nice enough guy, but of course I didn't like him leaving me out," Mitchell says. "Maybe it was because they hadn't paid a lot for me. Had I been a 200,000-pound player, I probably never would have been out of the side, but I'm just as good as the guys they spend big money on."

Rangers team-mate Colin Mitchell broke a leg in tackling Mitchell during the world series here last year, but Mitchell and McAdam became good friends in Scotland. "It was his own fault, and he knows it," Mitchell says.

Zico's still magic, Muehrlen to Ajax

Overseas round-up with PAUL MOON

Zico proved he still is capable of scoring at international level by snatching two in Brazil's 3-1 victory over Chile in a non-competition game at Porto Allegre.

● Chelsea has become the first English club to introduce identity cards for supporters as a measure against hooliganism. The scheme will cost \$100,000.

● Former England international Brian Talbot has moved from Arsenal to Watford as the result of a \$300,000 transfer.

● Peruvian national team coach Moises Barrac has been dismissed following the country's poor showing to date in the World Cup.

● Danish international striker Kenneth Brylle has moved from PSV Eindhoven (Holland) to Olympique Marseille (France).

● Former Adelaide City Juventus guest Justin Fashanu has moved to Brighton from Notts County for \$220,000.

● Top Spanish club Valencia is reported to be \$14,500,00 in debt.

● Arnold Muehrlen has left Manchester United for Ajax Amsterdam in his native Holland. Brother Gerrie, also a Dutch international, was a star of the Ajax side which won the European Champions' Cup three times in the early 1970s.

● "This was surely the most sensational goal in the history of German football."

That's how the Press described the effort by Otto Baumgartner, 22, playing for Jahn Regensburg against FC Bamberg in the regional league of Bavaria.

The man who last year suffered severe concussion, and spent some time in hospital, was used only sparingly this term. That is why he was bursting with excitement when coming on as substitute.

Within seconds, he took a pass. Like a good pro, he put his head down and kept his eye on the ball. He went past two men, dribbled around the goalkeeper and shot into the empty net.

Unfortunately, it was his own goal and it gave Bamberg a 1-0 win. Baumgartner was later in a state of shock. "I turned the wrong way round and mistook our goal for theirs..." he stammered.

Tooheys shelve Johnston; memo Frank: watch Eddie

The Brussels tragedy continued to plague soccer in indirect ways.

Now the classy TV commercial featuring Craig Johnston and advertising Tooheys beer has been recalled for fear of accusations of bad taste and of cashing in on the atrocity.

The commercial, hailed as the best and most distinguished of the long chain of "feel like a Tooheys" sport commercials, depicted Johnston as the epitome of the Australian sporting hero who made good overseas, clad in his all-red Liverpool outfit with the jingle referring freely to Liverpool's successes in the European Cup.

The commercial will be kept off the air until Brussels sinks deeper into the past and all reference to the European Cup — which for a long time is expected to trigger reminders of 38 people dying — will be excised from the lyrics.

For soccer's sake it is a pity indeed, for the Johnston commercial was invaluable soccer promotion on prime time television at no cost to soccer itself.



LES MURRAY

Bruce Potter, general manager of the advertising company which produces the Tooheys commercials, says the Johnston ad was poised to be one of their most successful.

Though it had been too early to gauge the response through market surveys, the company had been deluged with phone calls praising the ad.

It was indeed an unusual honor that left soccer's way — the Johnston ad was the first in a new Tooheys advertising campaign focusing on "the most successful contemporary Australian sportsman".

The second was on surfing champion Mark Richards.

The commercial was shot entirely in England with Johnston, a keen and expert professional photographer, taking charge of all location surveys. Though Potter is naturally

tight-lipped about the amount Johnston received for the ad, he admits the player was paid a fee "commensurate with a man of his stature".

The arrival of the ad was like a breath of fresh air in soccer fans, for many years, must have been wondering why the Tooheys commercials had neglected the game after traversing a wide variety of other sports: rugby league, Aussie rules, union, baseball, yachting, life saving and even fishing.

Perhaps it was a sign of some sort of acceptability that soccer has been allowed to join the ranks of the super-macho, bronzed Aussie-epitomised sports.

Though I wouldn't be surprised if it was soccer's own image of disunity and remarkable reluctance to lobby with the commercial's producers

for fairer play, that had stopped it from being produced earlier.

Brazil's away victory over Paraguay (2-0) which set it on the road to qualification for yet another World Cup made one ponder again over the position of foreign-based players and their use in one's national team.

The significance of the Brazilian performance was in the 11th-hour re-appointment of Tele Santana as Brazilian coach, who, upon his appointment, recalled all the big gun Brazilians playing abroad and went on to use them in the qualifiers.

His predecessor, the soon sacked Evaristo, began his build-up by neglecting all the "foreigners". His string of results, albeit friendly internationals, were dismal to say the least.

He did sound the alarm and called back his stars from Italy just before his dismissal but by then it was too late.

The good results can be taken as further proof that the policy of neglecting the expatriates doesn't work and



Craig Johnston

that rather, the reverse is the case.

International soccer is riddled with such proof.

The present Danish national team, the one which so sparklingly defeated the USSR in a recent qualifier and the one which, in 1983, was hailed as the best in Europe, is all but exclusively made up of foreign-based players.

England, too, could hardly get by without Hatelye, Wilkins and Francis, not to mention the Scots, Irish and Welsh who have historically relied on players based in England.

The same goes again for the Uruguayans, the Chileans, the Paraguayans and, particularly the Argentines whose recall of Maradona and Passarella brought them fine successes already in the qualifiers.

Obviously, these examples haven't escaped Frank Ark's attention. Ark this week included Sydney Croatia guest player Eddie Krncevic in the Soccerro squad.

Arok watched Krncevic last weekend and clearly was impressed. Even closer inspection could reveal that Krncevic has qualities vital to our chances of getting through World Cup qualifying games.

Alan Davidson and David Mitchell or course will be recruited, Arok's reasoning being that both of them already have taken part in Australia's long-term preparations and their experience abroad can only improve them.

Things came to a head two weeks ago when Garvey dropped Patterson, Winn and Mike Valentine to the youth team. In their first youth game, Winn scored a hat-trick and Valentine notched one in a 5-2 victory over Croydon City.

Sydney Olympic recently offered \$10,000 plus the proceeds of a match for Winn, but the Heidelberg committee knocked back the offer.

Winn still was anxious for a transfer as we went to press and Garvey officially announced this week that Patterson was on the transfer list.

Patterson said that if the club prices him out of the market, he will go on long working holiday overseas and forget about soccer.

Heidelberg signed him from Box Hill two years ago. Valentine also came from Box Hill, and Winn from Marconi.

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Bad blood at 'Berg

Heidelberg tried unsuccessfully last week to swap either Steve Winn or Scott Patterson for Tommy Cumming of Melbourne Croatia.

Patterson and Winn have been at loggerheads with coach Brian Garvey. Things came to a head two weeks ago when Garvey dropped Patterson, Winn and Mike Valentine to the youth team.

In their first youth game, Winn scored a hat-trick and Valentine notched one in a 5-2 victory over Croydon City.

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Kosmina closes on Abonyi

A pub for Jim, a snub for Rob, praise for Juve

Yakka Banovic is the best goalkeeper in Australia; Charlie Egan is the hardest man to mark; Rob Cullen's school team was rubbish; Brunswick Juventus will stay on top of the ladder; oh, and by the way, Jimmy Shirra's doing fine.

So says Brian Brown, central defender with Brunswick Juventus, which surely has the most experienced central defensive pairing in Australian soccer.

Don't believe me? Consider this — Brown played for Scottish club Dumbarton for three years then joined home town club Falkirk and was Player of the Year when Falkirk won promotion to First Division and captained Falkirk the following season. Brown's defensive cohort, John Dowie, played with Fulham, was in its squad for the 1975 English F.A. Cup final against West Ham, and played for Glasgow Celtic in a Scottish League Cup final. The defence rests.

But what was so bad about Cullen's school team?

"They could never beat my school team. Never. In fact Robbie used to come and watch me play in finals and that's as close as he ever got to the big time with his school team," said Brown with a laugh.

Cullen, of course, is Brown's team mate at Juventus, just one of many Scots connected with Australian soccer who Brown knew in his native Scotland.

Shirra, the former South

By CRAIG MacKENZIE

Melbourne Hellas star, played for Gairloch and Falkirk as did Brown. And one of Brown's team mates at Dumbarton was big Jimbo Muir, the ex-Socceroo, Marconi and Adelaide City Juventus stopper.

Shirra recently bought a new pub in a small village outside Falkirk, so he seems well settled in Scotland. He quit Hellas and went back home in 1983.

Brown's just as well settled in Australia, but earlier this year was wondering if the move he made in July, 1984, was worthwhile.

"Juventus had to sign me as a guest player initially because there wasn't a visa vacancy at the club. I turned up with my boots for last year's finals game against Brisbane Lions thinking that I'd be playing but I was told that there was an NSL rule stopping me. The same thing happened in this year's Buffalo Gold Cup, in fact I only played one game in that competition. I was starting to wonder if I'd made the right move by coming over here to tell you the truth, but when Green Gully signed Kevin Lloyd I was able to become a visa player," said Brown.

And how things have worked out since. Before last week's round, Juventus was perched proudly on top of the Southern Division ladder but Brown isn't a bit surprised by the success coming the club's way.

"I always thought that we'd do things this year. The committee makes you feel that success is just around the corner and we've made brilliant signings this year."

"Peter Lewis has been a tremendous signing, not just because he's a damn good

player, but because of his character, his personality. He's a tremendous guy to have in your dressing room. Yakka Banovic is the best goalkeeper in Australia as far as I'm concerned, and Paul Wade showed against Hellas the other week what he can do. We haven't seen the best of Paul yet either. He knows that, but watch out when he gets going."

"That win over Hellas was very, very important. We had to win that one. A draw was no good to us. I think that Juventus and Hellas are going to be very hard to beat for the remainder of the season and at the end, I think there might just be a point between us. We've got the ability to stay on top. I saw something in that Hellas game that I hadn't seen from Juventus before — every player got stuck in for every single tackle. The lads know now that we can do it."

The resurgence at Juventus has been remarkable when you consider the turmoil at the club over the Tommy Traynor sacking early this year. Traynor only coached Juventus for three Buffalo Gold Cup matches before being dumped and replaced by last year's coach, John Margaritis.

"Look, it makes no difference to me who coaches the team. I'm paid to do a job no matter who my coach is. "I was happy for Tommy Traynor when he got the job and I felt sorry for him when he went. He didn't really get a fair crack of the whip I suppose, but knowing the way Juventus operates, I know that the committee felt that John Margaritis was the best man for the job and looking at our results, you can't argue, can you?"

"Personally, I think it would have been brilliant if Tommy and John could have worked together but I guess that wasn't on. John's been around for too long to want another man at the helm. He doesn't need anyone else."

And what about Dowie, the man who partners Brown at the back?

"He's a big, moaning bugger."

"Seriously though, John's a great user of the ball. I guess in some ways we complement each other quite well. What I'm not so good at, he is and what he's not so good at, I am, so it works quite well. I enjoy playing alongside John. I really do."

It's not just new signings that have given Juventus the impetus to claim top spot in the league. It's not just Margaritis either.

"I know I sound like so many other players, but last year we had a bad run of injuries, we really did. This year, we've got Richard Miranda and Joe Sweeney fit to play and Fabio (Incantalupe) too, and that's been a real bonus. I got to the stage last year where we had to sign young boys just to field a side, or we'd use youth team players who weren't really ready for the first team."



Socceroo captain John Kosmina



Attila Abonyi during his playing days

John Kosmina (Sydney Hakoah) will become the all-time top scorer of the Socceroos this season, barring injuries or a lapse in form.

During the recent international series he brought his tally to 34, only two less than Attila Abonyi who still leads on the national team's goalscoring list.

Kosmina has another international series — against AEK, Red Star and PSV Eindhoven — plus the World Cup qualifying matches in which to overtake Abonyi this year.

Socceroo goalscoring and appearance records:

TOP SCORERS

All games

36. Abonyi
34. Kosmina
21. Baartz, Cole
20. Ollerton
17. Krncevic, Alston
13. Vojtek
11. Buljevic
10. Richards, Harding, Sharne.

Full internationals

25. Abonyi
18. Baartz, Kosmina
16. Cole
13. Ollerton
8. Vojtek, McColl

APPEARANCES

All games

114. Wilson
100. Rooney
88. Abonyi
80. Kosmina
73. Schaefer
62. Warren
61. Ujjesenovic, Alston
60. Richards
59. Baartz
55. Ollerton, Bennett
54. G. Byrne
52. Mackay
51. Henderson
49. Barnes

Full internationals

62. Wilson
58. Abonyi
53. Rooney
49. Schaefer, Baartz
43. Warren
38. Alston, Kosmina
34. Ujjesenovic
32. Richards
31. Vojtek, Mackay
30. Ollerton, Barnes, G. Byrne.

FULL YOUTH INTERNATIONALS

23. Patikas
12. Incantalupo
17. Raskopoulos
16. Maier, Lowe
15. Whealey, Blair, Vlietstra, McCulloch
14. Kay, Jones, R. Stewart, Farina
13. Crino, Hummel
12. Ahearn, Mitchell, Hunter
11. Woods, Lee, D. Wright.

YOUTH INTERNATIONAL GOALS

10. Lowe
8. Brown, Kalantzis
6. Krncevic, Farina
5. Koussas
4. Crino, Wright, Incantalupo, Patikas, Hristodoulou

Yankos, Odzakov tops

From page one

Three games:

- 8.33 Zarko Odzakov
- 7.66 Terry Greedy
- David Ratcliffe
- 6.66 Steve O'Connor
- 5.66 Joe Watson

Two games:

- 5.5 Gerry Gomez

One game:

- 8.0 Jeff Oliver
- 7.0 Robbie Dunn
- Jim Patikas

VASCO DA GAMA

Four games:

- 8.0 Nene
- 7.75 Donato
- Vitor
- Gilberto
- 7.5 Ivan
- 7.25 Romulo
- 7.0 Maurichinho
- 5.75 Roberto Dinamite

Three games:

- 7.33 Nei
- 6.33 Claudio Jose

Two games:

- 6.5 Roberto Costa
- Acacio

One game:

- 8.0 Lira
- 7.0 Oliveira

UDINESE

Four games:

- 7.5 Gerolin
- Carnevale
- 7.25 Miano
- 7.0 Susic
- 6.75 Criscimanni
- DeAgostini
- Marcelo
- 6.5 Galparoli
- 6.0 Cattaneo

Three games:

- 7.66 Mauro
- 6.66 Brini
- 6.33 Papalis
- 6.0 Robertinho
- 5.0 Fiore

One game:

- 5.0 Montesano

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

Four games:

- 7.25 Falco
- 5.0 Mabbutt
- Clemence
- 7.5 Thomas
- 6.75 Roberts
- 6.5 Miller
- 6.25 Ardiles

Three games:

- 7.66 Dick
- 7.0 Hazard

Two games:

- 8.5 Bowen
- 7.0 Galvin
- 6.5 Leworthy
- Hughton

One game:

- 7.0 Crook
- 5.0 Chiedozie

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Brian Brown (right) clears in front of SM-Hellas star Charlie Egan, the hardest opponent Brown has faced in Australia. At left is Brown's central defensive partner at Brunswick Juventus, John Dowie. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Cross wants Maltese star

Sunshine-George Cross is trying to lure Maltese star Carmel Busuttill to the club for guest games.

Busuttill plays for Rabat Ajax, which has just won the Maltese championship for the first time in its history.

It clinched the title by gaining a precious point against Sliema Wanderers in the last game of the season.

One of the giants of Maltese soccer, Floriana, was relegated, along with Marsa.

Hamrun finished second in the league and will be Malta's UEFA Cup representative while Sliema Wanderers were in the championship hunt until the end, only to finish third.

Mabba has been promoted to the premier division after a devastating unbeaten run of 40



Maltese champions Rabat Ajax, from left, standing: Mario Zahra, Mario Cortis, Iordan Filipov, Ronald Scerri, Andy McGonigle. Front: Carmel Busuttill, Chico Azzopardi, Raymond Zahra, Edmund Caruana, Charles Bugeja, Charles Scerri. Missing: Martin Spiteri, Kevin Asciak, Martin Sciuluna.

Curovic writ

• Footsray J.U.S.T. utility player Suleiman Curovic goes to court today (Wednesday), seeking a free clearance from Footsray J.U.S.T.

A Supreme Court writ lodged last week claims Footsray J.U.S.T. had refused both to enter into a contract with Curovic and to clear him.

The NSL transfer season closes on June 30.

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Papaiaounnou for Olympic?

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Lakis Papaiaounnou of Iraklis is expected to arrive this week to play for Sydney Olympic against Wollongong, while South Melbourne Hellas is trying to sign Nikos Anastopoulos of Olympiakos, Tassos Mitropoulos of Olympiakos or Gregoris Haralambidis of Panathinaikos.

On Sunday at Middle Park, Hellas faces a tough task against Adelaide City Juventus, which drew 2-2 with Hellas last time they met. Colin McAdam from Glasgow Rangers will play his first full match for the South Australian side, while Hellas is likely to miss John Zyzendorn who is injured. Steve Blair and Angie Postecoglou should be back after suspension, however.

Papaiaounnou will replace Dave Provan as a guest player with Sydney Olympic. Olympic won five straight games during Provan's guest stint.

Eddie Krncevic meanwhile, will play his last guest game with Sydney Croatia, against Inter Monaro in Canberra on Sunday, having scored three goals in his first two games.

Inter Monaro, despite the absence of Sebastian Giam-paolo and Tony Brennan, came from behind to equalise at 2-2 against Hakoah and on home soil, is capable of another upset result, although the odds would be about 3-1.

The relegation issue continues to be the most intriguing aspect of both divisions. Wollongong has been picking up points with pleasing regularity and Adrian Alston hasn't been afraid of experimenting, to the extent of moving stopper Scott Dickson to centre forward, and trying out new goalkeeper Kiri Velkov. Newcastle-Rosebud's efforts recently haven't been as sound as Wollongong's, but it will take a few weeks yet before we get a clear picture.

Footscray J.U.S.T., which meets Brisbane City in Brisbane, is now favored to avoid relegation, at the expense of troubled Green Gully. However, it wouldn't surprise if Green Gully decides this week

to buy Tommy Cumming from Melbourne Croatia after all. Even then, with only one victory from its past 10 games, Green Gully is hardly likely to upset Heidelberg-Alexander.

J.U.S.T. regains Luka Bonacic after suspension and should win in Brisbane.

Preston-Makedonia transfer-listed goalkeeper Richard Wilson for \$10,000 last week — only a few days before the transfer deadline. Makedonia still has high hopes for a place in the finals. "We have been picking up in the past few weeks and we're now starting to look good," says coach Bill Murray.

However, Makedonia can expect a tough game indeed from George Cross at Connor Reserve, with the likely outcome being a draw.

Ante Ljubic has added fire power to the already formidable Melbourne Croatia at track, meaning West Adelaide Hellas could be Croatia's next victim on Sunday.

Sydney Hakoah should regain Steve O'Connor and Frank Farina for two matches at the weekend, but Hakoah's prospects don't look good against Marconi on Saturday and Penrith on Sunday. Penrith is Hakoah's bogey team. It beat Hakoah last year, and also won their first-round clash this year 1-0.

APIA continues to recruit desperately in the hope of avoiding relegation. Last weekend it added Lou Douinis from Canterbury-Marickville to midfielder Tom Steven who had been signed from Manly the previous week, and Egyptian international Ala Abbas is, apparently, still to come into the side. We wonder about the reason for the hold-up.

VSF Travel

The VSF Travel Club, in association with Ametco Travel, provides a trip to Europe flying Thai International to the top scorer in the NSL Southern Division.

- Leaders:
- 12. Egan (SMH).
 - 9. Stevenson (H'b).
 - 8. Smith (Mak), Latif (SGC), Sweeney (B.J).
 - 6. Spink (Mak), Lewis (GC), D. Brown (SMH), Ward (M. Cr).
 - 5. Reis (BC), Cole (Mak), Maxwell (ACJ), Tasios (H'b), Zinnis (B.J).
 - 4. Villani, Northcote (ACJ), Lucchesi (GG), Petersen (B.J), Hamilton (BC).



Charlie Egan

Youth games

Victorian Youth League results:

Heidelberg Utd 6 Frankfurt Pines 1, Melbourne City 1, Syd Melbourne 1, Fawkner 1, Preston 2, Sunshine G.C. 0, Green Gully 1, Footscray 2 v B.U. Juventus 2.

YOUTH STANDINGS

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Heidelberg Utd.	12	0	4	64	25	4
Syd. Melb.	10	3	2	20	17	23
B.U. Juventus	8	6	2	50	20	22
Melb. Croatia	9	4	3	37	12	22
Preston	9	4	3	38	19	22
Green Gully	8	1	7	37	21	17
Footscray	8	1	7	29	28	17
Sunshine G.K.	6	3	7	24	23	15
Nuna City	4	4	8	16	39	12
Fawkner	3	3	10	21	53	9
Frank Pines	2	1	13	18	67	5
Croydon City	2	0	14	9	58	4

This Saturday's game:
Frankston Pines v Melbourne Croatia.

This Sunday's games:
Croydon City v Footscray J.U.S.T.; Green Gully v Heidelberg Alexander; Preston Makedonia v Sunshine-George Cross; South Melbourne Hellas v Fawkner; Brunswick Juventus v Nunawading City.

Team of the Week

In brackets: number of appearances in team of the week.

GREEDY (2) (St. G. Budapest)	MACLEOD (1) (Feet JUST)	M. O'SHEA (1) (St. G. Budapest)	BUNDALO (1) (Wollongong)	MASON (1) (Marconi)	KRNCVIC (1) (Syd. Croatia)	TAPAI (1) (Feet JUST)
ROZIC (4) (Syd. Croatia)	PROVAN (3) (Syd. Olympic)	MORGAN (2) (St. G. Budapest)	R. BROWN (3) (Marconi)			

Weekend NSL matches with likely winners in capitals

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Sydney City Hakoah v MARCONI at Sydney Athletic Field, 3pm.	Brisbane City v FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T. at Spencer Park, 3pm.
Newcastle-Rosebud v Blacktown (draw) at Adams-town Oval, 2.30pm.	West Adelaide Hellas v MELBOURNE CROATIA at Hindmarsh Stadium, 2.30pm.
	Green Gully v HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER at Green Gully Reserve, 3pm.
	Preston-Makedonia v Sunshine-George Cross (draw) at Connor Reserve, 3pm.
	South Melbourne Hellas v Adelaide City Juventus (draw) at Middle Park, 3pm.
	BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS v Brisbane Lions at Olympic Park No. 2, 3pm.
	Inter Monaro v SYDNEY CROATIA at National Sports Centre, 3pm.
	Penrith v Sydney City Hakoah (draw) at Cook Park, 3pm.
	SYDNEY OLYMPIC v Wollongong at Pratten Park, 3pm.
	MARCONI v APIA-Leichhardt at Marconi Stadium, 3pm.
	ST GEORGE BUDAPEST v Canberra City Olympians at St George Stadium, 3pm.

Still Honeyman

Graham Honeyman (WA-Hellas) increased his lead in the voting for the Boral Bricks \$1500 Player of the Year award, while Jim Patikas and Graham Arnold of Sydney Croatia drew level with Charlie Egan (SM-Hellas) in the Boral Bricks \$1000 top scorer award.

Top vote-getters:
58. Honeyman (WAH), 49. Egan (SMH), 46. Gomez (SCH), 44. Bryant (S.M.), 43. Rozic (S.C.), 42. Yankos (H'b), 41. Nyskohus (ACJ), 39. Stevenson (H'b), Hunter (BL), 36. Bundalo (W), Crino (SMH), 35. Wheatley (B), 34. Dickson (W), Maxwell (ACJ), 33. Patikas (S.C.), Odzakovic (A. Rose), 32. Slater (St. G.), Mason (Marc), 31. R. Brown (Marc), E. Campbell (B.J).

MELBOURNE CROATIA 4 (Ljubic 3rd, 11th, Biskic 58th, Ward 84th) BRISBANE CITY 1 (Carey 28th) at Olympic Park No. 1. Crowd: about 750. Ratings by Craig McKenzie.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Ruse 9 — Curcio 7, McIntosh 7, Antolovic 8, Hannan 8 — Biskic 8, Cristalo 5 (Markovic 84th), Campbell 7 — Ward 8, Goevic 8, Ljubic 8 (House 85th), Coach: Domagoj Kapetanovic. BRISBANE CITY: Wishart 7 — Archer 7 (Reis H.T. 6), Milovanovic 6, Wilkinson 7, Bromfield 6 — Mengotti 6, Pimblett 7, Hamilton 8 — Fazio 7, Lunn 7, Sarginis 6, Carey 8, Coach: Jim Hermiston. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: Goevic (MC), 5 Biskic (MC), 4 Hamilton (Bris. City), 3 Antolovic (MC), 2 Ljubic (MC), 1 Carey (Bris. City).

FOOTSCRAY JUST 1 (Karic 47th) BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 1 (Cullen 31st) at Schindler Reserve. Attendance: 3000 (estimate). Ratings by Peter Desjar.

FOOTSCRAY JUST: Island 7 — Barjakovic 8, MacLeod 9, Kyria-koulas 7, Karic 8 — Tapai 9, Kojo 8, Buljevic 7, Belic 7 — Paton 7, Lujic 7, Coach: Rocco Ilie. BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS: Banovic 7 — Lewis 7, Brown 7, Brown 7, Campbell 8 — Wade 8, Miranda 8, Peterson 7 — Zinni 7, Uncantalupo 7 (Joni), Sweeney 7, Cullen 8, Coach: John Margaritis. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Tapai (F.J.), 5. MacLeod (F.J.), 4. Wade (B.J.), 3. Campbell (B.J.), 2. Kojo (F.J.), 1. Karic (F.J.).

BRISBANE LIONS 1 (Bassingthwaite 73rd) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Brown 10th) at Richlands. Crowd: 712. Ratings by Ricky Russo.

BRISBANE LIONS: Arrow 7 — D. Hunter 8, A. Hunter 7, Vasquez 4, Bas-Singthwaite 8 — J. Stewart 8, Ogden 6 — T. Redmond 6, McDonagh 7, McGregor (Anderson 8th), Coach: Gordon Arrow-smith. HELLAS: Laumets 7 — Russell 7, Zyzendorn 8, McDowell 6, An-zakic 6 — Bozovic 7, Halford 8, Crino 7, Murphy 8 — Egan 7, Brown 8, Coach: Len McKendry. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. R. Stewart (BL), 5. Zyzendorn (SMH), 4. Brown (SMH), 3. Bassingthwaite (BL), 2. D. Hunter (BL), 1. J. Stewart (BL).

NORTHERN DIVISION

BLACKTOWN DEMONS 0 MARCONI 2 (Brown 56th, Lowe pen. 73rd) at the Gabbie. Crowd: 1320. Ratings by Alex Vesic:

BLACKTOWN: Hoars 7 — Skellern 7, Pointer 8, Daley 6, Bourke 5, — Selvage 6, Bradley 7, Knight 8 (Thorntwaite 46th — 5), — Larkin (Bottalico 67th), McKie 5, O'Connor 7. MARCONI: McPherson 7 — Carter 8, Henderson 7, Calderan 7, Starrey 7 — Grey 8, Mason 9, Treddinick 7 — Lowe 7, Brown 8, Shorne 7. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Mason (M), 5. Brown (M), 4. Knight (B), 3. Pointer (B), 2. Gray (M), 1. Carter (M).

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS 3 (Byrne, 12th, Sernanni 33rd, Lamond 68th) NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD 1 (Stewart, 37th) at the National Sports Centre. Ratings by Peter Windsor.

CANBERRA: Franken 7 — Bryant 7, Harkins 7, Burke 7, Mihailides 7, Sernanni 8, Byrne 8, Dunn 7 — English 8, Lamond 8, Gibson 8, Coach: Ray Thompson. NEWCASTLE: Gosling 7 — Power 7, Miller 7, Kerby 6 (Milosevic 61st), Maier 8 — Macquarrie 7, D. Jones 7, Senkalski 7 — Stewart 7, Todd 7, Coach: Willie Gallagher. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Gibson (C), 5. English (C), 4. Lamond (C), 3. Sernanni (C), 2. Stewart (NR), 1. Byrne (C).

PENRITH CITY 1 (Wotherspoon 2nd) CANBERRA 2 (Lamond 9th, 31st) at Cook Park. Crowd: 202. Ratings by Peter Scherak.

PENRITH CITY: Gibson 7 — Brogan 5, Ainsworth 7, Cross 7, Campbell 5 — Wotherspoon 6, Hebb 6, Toohy 5 — Hunter 7, Jones 6 (Shute 77th), Licata 6, Easthorpe 66th, Coach: Willie Wallace. CANBERRA: Franken 7 — Mihailides 7, Burke 6, Harkins 6, Bryant 8, Gibson 7, Byrne 6, Dunn 7, Sernanni 7 — Lamond 8, English 7, Coach: Ray Thompson. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Lamond (C), 5. Bryant (C), 4. Dunn (C), 3. Hunter (P), 2. English (C), 1. Ainsworth (P).

WOLLONGONG 0 PENRITH 0 at Wollongong Showgrounds. Ratings by Knut Warner.

WOLLONGONG: Velkov 7 — Green 7, Willis 7, Vlietstra 8, Gaffney 7 — Bundalo 9, Marton 8, Hristovski 8 — Godzik 6 (Kotamanidis 67th), Dickson 6, Stefanovski 6 (Brodnick 67th), Coach: Adrian Alston. PENRITH: Gibson 8 — Brogan 7, Ainsworth 8 (Inj), Toohy 7, 56th, Campbell 8, Cross 7 — Wotherspoon 6, Hunter 7 (Shute 68th), Hebb 7 — Easthorpe 6, Jones 7, Licata 6. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Bundalo (W), 5. Marton (W), 4. Gibson (P), 3. Ainsworth (P), 2. Vlietstra (W), 1. Campbell (P).

SYDNEY CROATIA 5 (Krncevic 2, Jurin, Arnold, Patikas) WOLLONGONG 1 (Willis pen) at Croatian Sports Centre. Ratings by Alex Vesic:

SYDNEY CROATIA: Woodhouse 7 — A. Kovacic 7, Rozic 9, Vidale 7, Tomasic 8 — Patikas 7, Krncevic 9 (M. Kovacic 8, half time), Savor 8, Odzakovic 7 — Arnold 8, Jurin 7 (Dragicevic 8, 50th), Coach: Vedran Rozic. WOLLONGONG: Billington 5 — Green 6, Vlietstra 6, Willis 6, Dickson 6, Gaffney 5 — Bundalo 7, Kerr 5 (Godzik 65th), Hristovski 6, Brodnick 5, Kotamanidis 5, Coach: Adrian Alston. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Rozic (S.C.), 5. Krncevic (S.C.), 4. Arnold (S.C.), 3. Dragicevic (S.G.), 2. Savor (S.C.), 1. Tomasic (S.C.).

SOUTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS	9	5	2	26	14	23
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	9	4	3	27	18	22
HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER	8	4	4	25	14	20
MELBOURNE CROATIA	8	4	4	20	11	20
SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS	6	6	4	17	13	18
Preston-Makedonia	7	2	7	23	23	16
Adelaide City Juventus	5	4	7	25	27	14
Brisbane Lions	5	4	6	14	19	14
West Adelaide Hellas	5	3	8	20	25	13
Brisbane City	5	2	8	20	29	12
Green Gully	3	4	9	14	23	10
Footscray J.U.S.T.	3	2	11	15	30	8

NORTHERN DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
SYDNEY CROATIA	10	4	2	39	18	24
MARCONI	9	4	2	32	17	22
SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH	9	3	2	29	15	21
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	9	1	6	21	20	19
CANBERRA OLYMPIANS	6	4	6	25	26	16
Blacktown	6	3	7	24	20	15
St. George Budapest	4	5	6	18	20	13
Inter-Monaro	5	3	8	22	32	13
Penrith	3	6	7	18	21	12
APIA-Leichhardt	5	1	8	17	21	11
Newcastle-Rosebud	3	4	9	17	32	10
Wollongong	3	4	9	18	38	10

BORAL BRICKS

We can help you build it.

30. Bertogna (APIA), Faulkner (SGC), 12. Arnold, Patikas (S.C.), Egan (SMH), 10. Stevenson (H'b), 9. Price (WAH), Jankovics (M.C.), Lowe (Marc), 8. Smith (Mak), Latif (SGC), Pruce (WAH).

SOUTHERN DIVISION

HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER 1 (Tasios 81st) WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS 0 at Olympic Village. Crowd about 900. Ratings by Ken Kontr:

HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER: Oliver 7 — McKie 7, Angele 7, Yankos 7, Marley 7 — Metaxas 7, Christopoulos 6, Tasios 7, Tsolakis 6 — Sele-midis 6, Stevenson 7, Coach: Brian Garvey. WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS: Crook 7 — Hiern 7, Brown 7, Honeyman 7, Mousoulis 6 — Panagis 6, Manou 7, Atsalas 7, Genikas 7 — Price 6, Stefanopoulos 6, Coach: Neil McCahey. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Metaxas (HA), 5. Yankos (HA), 4. Honeyman (WA), 3. Atsalas (WA), 2. Stevenson (HA), 1. Genikas (WA).

SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS 2 (McLaren 70th, Gilder 88th) GREEN GULLY 0 at Chaplin Reserve. Crowd about 8000. Ratings by Laurie Schwab:

GEORGE CROSS: Kastner 6 — Bennett 7 — James 8, Richardson 8 — Taylor 8, Faulkner 6, McLaren 6, Bain 7 — Mitten 6, Gilder 7, Lat 5 (Lennon 80th), Coach: John Gardiner. GREEN GULLY: Denys 7 — Murray 7, McLennan 7, Cannell 7, Hogben 7 — Vassallo 4 (Smart 76th), Williams 6, Smallman 4, Campbell 4, Lucchesi 7, Lewis 4, Coach: Manfred Schaefer. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. James (SGC), 5. Richardson (SGC), 4. Taylor (SGC), 3. Bennett (SGC), 2. McLennan (GG), 1. Gilder (SGC).

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Smith 49th, Spink 62nd) ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS 1 (Mullen 64th) at Olympic Sports Field. Crowd: about 2500. Ratings by Alex Vesic:

ADELAIDE JUVENTUS: McNally 8 — Mella, Flounders 8, Nyskohus 8, Tobin 6 — Santrac 7, Northcote 6 (McAdam 27th), T. Costanzo 82nd, Maxwell 5 — Villani 5, Mullen 7, Vidmar 4, Coach: Edmund Kraft. PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Trainades 8 — Opasinas 7, Dobson 8, Dunn 8, McMillan 7 — Ilioski 8, Petrov 7, Lane 6 — Smith 8, Cole 6, Spink 7, Coach: Bill Murray. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Dobson (P), 5. Dunn (P), 4. Nyskohus (A.J.), 3. Flounders (A.J.), 2. Smith (P), 1. McNally (A.J.).

NORTHERN DIVISION

SYDNEY CROATIA 2 (Patikas 66th, Krncevic 90th) ST GEORGE 2 (Petkovski 6th, Morgan 53rd) at Croatia Sports Centre. Crowd 6324. Ratings by Michael Mikolajczyk:

CROATIA: Woodhouse 5, Basic 6 (Savor 53rd 6), Rozic 8, Vidale 6, Rezac 7 — M. Kovacic 7, Krncevic 9, Odzakovic 6, Junn 6 (Dragicevic 75th), — Patikas 7, Arnolovic 6, Coach: Vedran Rozic. ST GEORGE: Greedy 9 — Skeen 8, Ratcliffe 8, M. O'Shea 9, Koczka 7 (Bozanic 53rd 6) — Petkovski 8, Stone 7, J. O'Shea 8, Ricoy 8 — Cotton 8 (Barton 86th), Morgan 9, Coach: Frank Arok. Boral Bricks best six: 6. Morgan (SG), 5. M. O'Shea (SG), 4. Greedy (SG), 3. Krncevic (SG), 2. Krncevic (C), 1. Rozic (C).

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 3 (Provan 14th & 46th, Koussas 87th) ST GEORGE 1 (Bozanic 7th) at Pratten Park. Crowd: 3273. Ratings by Alex Vesic:

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier 7 — Rogers 8, Stankovic 7, Ziras 6, Jennings 7 — Raskopoulos 6, J. O'Shea 6, Provan 5, Soper 7 (Koussas 87th), Kalantzis 6, Coach: Manfred Schaefer. ST GEORGE: Greedy 6 — Skeen 6, M. O'Shea 5, J. O'Shea 6, Green 5 — Bozanic 7, Ratcliffe 6, Ricoy 6 — Slater 7, Morgan 5, Barton 5, (Cotton 62nd — 6), Coach: Frank Arok. Best six for the Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Provan (SO), 5. Meier (SO), 4. Slater (SG), 3. Stankovic (SO), 2. Greedy (SG), 1. Jennings (SO).

APIA LEICHHARDT 1 (McLellan 84min) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2 (Raskopoulos 27min, Johnson 44min) at Lambert Park. Attendance about 3,000. Ratings by Andrew Dettre:

APIA LEICHHARDT: Catlin 6 — Casacchia 5, Bertogna 7, Mariani 6, Brown 6 — Butler 7, Steven 5, Hamilton (Colagui 6, 22nd min), — Caban 5, Doumas 6, Morsello 5 — Coach: B. Botolico. OLYMPIC: Meier 7 — Rogers 7, Ziras 6, (Lambropoulos 63min), Stankovic 6, Jennings 6 — Johnson 7, Raskopoulos 7, Patalis 8 — Provan 7, (Koussas 69min) Soper 5, Kanantzis 5 — Coach: Manfred Schaefer. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Patikas (SO), 5. Butler (AL), 4. Johnson (SO), 3. Raskopoulos (SO), 2. Bertogna (AL), 1. Provan (SO).

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 2 (Barnas 14, Kosmina pen 37) INTERA-MONARO 2 (A. Ambrosino pen 6, Willox 59) at Sydney Athletic Field. Crowd: 650. Ratings by Peter Scott:

HAKOAH: Pezzano 7 — Rodrigues 7, Gomez 6, Robertson 6, Cant 6 — Watson 7, Barnas 14, de Marigny 6 — Lee 7, Kosmina 6, Fletcher 6, Coach: Eddie Thomson. INTER-MONARO: Hocking 8 — Tuilawa 7, Santolin 6, Galletti 6, Williams 7 — A. Ambrosino 7, Carbone 7, C. Ambrosino 7 (Rusch 87) — Willox 6, Carbone 6, Walsh 7, Coach: Frank Macaronne. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Hocking 8, 5. T. de Marigny 6, 4. Barnas 14, 3. Williams 6, 2. Lee 7, 1. Rodrigues (H).

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD 0 — MARCONI 2 (28th Carter, 74th Brown) at Adamstown Oval. Crowd: 1285. Ratings by Joe Lanzoni:

NEWCASTLE: Gosling 7 — Maier 7, Power 7, (Todd 82nd), Boogaard 8, Mark Jones 8 — Senkalski 7, Macquarrie 7, Kerby 6 — Stewart 6, Brandt 7, David Jones 6, Milosevic 69th 6th, Coach: Willie Gallagher. MARCONI: McPherson 8, Savor 8, Carter 7, Henderson 6, Calderan 7, Sterrey 6, Gray 8, Mason 8, Treddinick 7, Brown 8, Lowe 7, Jankovics 7, (Shane 56th 6), Coach: Les Scheinfeld. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Brown (M), 5. Mason (M), 4. Gray (M), 3. Boogaard (NR), 2. M. Jones (NR), 1. Lowe (M).

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NATIONAL LEAGUE BEST GOALKEEPER AWARD

\$250 TO THE WINNER

Leaders:

- 33. Hoare (B).
- 26. Gibson (P), Kastner (SGC).
- 24. Greedy (St. G).
- 22. Franken (Can), Wishart (BC).

- 21. Trainades (Mak).
- 19. Runje (M. Cr).
- 18. Hocking (IM).
- 17. Evans (BL).
- 16. McNally (ACJ).

NSL UNDER 21 PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

\$500 to the winner

Leaders:

- 39. A. Hunter (BL).
- 34. Maxwell (ACJ), Dickson (W).
- 32. Slater (St. G).
- 30. Bundalo (W).
- 25. Goevic (M. Cr).
- 24. Tapai (JUST).

- 23. Farina (SCH).
- 22. Franken (Can).
- 21. Trainades (Mak).
- 20. Owens (NR).
- 19. Runje (M. Cr).
- 18. Colagiuri (APIA).



● Champion jockey Darren Gauci (front row, fourth from left) with the Sunshine-George Cross team before its festive derby match against Green Gully. From left, standing: club official, Tyrone James, Carl Gilder, Lou Kastner, Steve Richardson, Steve Scerri, Noel Mitten, Gerry Bennett, Front: Mark Lennon, Chris Taylor, mascot, Darren Gauci, Jeff Faulkner, Don McLaren, Roger Bain, Ossie Latif. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.

Darren Gauci, a band and shades of 1964



Laurie Schwab

Man of the match:
TYRONE JAMES
(S. Geo. Cross)

**Geo. Cross 2
Green Gully 0**
Scorers: McLaren 10th, Gilder 55th.
Venue: Chaplin Reserve.
Cautions: Bennett (GC),

Smallman (GC), Mitten (GC), Bain (GC).
Referee: Evan Venios 9.

In the entire National League, only five teams have lost less games than George Cross. They are: Brunswick-Juventus, Sydney Croatia, Marconi, Sydney Hakoah and South Melbourne Hellas. That puts into perspective the enormity of George Cross's achievement in climbing into the top five after finishing last in 1984.

Green Gully, meanwhile, has won only one of its past 10 matches. George Cross's 2-0 victory last Sunday stretched "Georgie's" current winning run to six successive weeks, and with stoppers Tyrone James and Steve Richardson in superb form, "Georgie" looks a good bet for the NSL finals, although it will have to hold off Makedonia's determined bid for fifth place.



● Ossie Latif heads towards goal. At right is Green Gully's David Smallman who missed a penalty.

Gibson foils Wolves

**Wollongong 0
Penrith 0**

Venue: Wollongong Showgrounds
Crowd: 690

Relegation battles Wollongong City and Penrith fought out a scoreless draw but bottom-placed Wollongong should have won after dominating the second half.

Penrith goalkeeper Mike Gibson saved his side, making a number of top saves after the interval.

The visitors always looked as if they would be content to take a point and the Wolves goalkeeper Kiri Velkov had little to do.

For Wollongong, youth international midfielder Alex Bundalo had a good game while Scott Dickson did well after being switched from the defence to striker.

Penrith coach Willie Wallace appears to have big problems, judging by his team's inability to push forward, but Jeff Ainsworth and Peter Brogan defended well.

Man of the match:
ALEX BUNDALO
(Wollongong)

Wollongong spent the second half "camped" in the Penrith half and Gibson was kept busy from the first couple of minutes.

He made two fine reflex saves in succession from Dickson and replacement Pat Brodnik.

Brodnik then had a great chance to steal the game when he received a pass from Dez Marton, only to shoot wide from eight metres.

Wollongong continued to push forward from midfield, with Bundalo and Zivko Hristovski always prominent, but once again lacked a striker capable of putting the ball away.

Wolves coach Adrian Alston replaced forwards Rade Stjepanovski and Bernie Godzik with Brodnik and Peter Kotamandini in the second half without success.

James — although conceding a penalty over a foul on Claude Lucchesi when the score was 1-0 — has a very special quality as a defender; his distribution is first-class. He can stop a dangerous move by the opposition with a full-blooded challenge and, in the same breath as it were, turn defence into attack with a pinpoint pass over 25 or 30 metres.

And it was a surge out of defence by James that paved the way for George Cross's second goal — reminiscent of his effort against Footscray JUST on the same ground. With two minutes to go against arch-rival Green Gully, James took the ball on a run, passed it forward to substitute Mark Lennon, and Lennon's accurate pass was put away by Carl Gilder.

It was only the second NSL goal scored by Gilder who needed to notch a few to complete the other good work he does as target man.

Green Gully, under new coach Steve Short who had replaced Bobby McLachlan during the week, changed the 1-2-3-2 formation it had used in its 2-3 loss to Adelaide Juventus the previous Saturday, back to 4-2-2. However, the four midfielders — Willie Vassallo, Jim Williams, David Smallman and George Campbell — spent most of the match just trying to hold their ground in the middle. They neither contributed anything of note in trying to get Green Gully forward, nor did they do much to stop Chris Taylor, Roger Bain, Jeff Faulkner and Don McLaren from getting forward.

The two strikers — Paul Lewis and, more to the point, Lucchesi — were left trying to make their own luck against Richardson, James, and sweeper Gerry Bennett. To Lucchesi's credit, he kept on battling away, with Richardson hard on his heels, and would have scored with an ounce of luck. Lucchesi's greatest asset is his superior ball control, so it was weird indeed that his teammates invariably played high balls to him, inviting Richardson to use his superior heading ability.

George Cross official Alf Zahra did a splendid job in organising the pre-match festivities, but was let down by the non-appearance of IBF boxing champion Lester Ellis. Darren Gauci was there, being shown off in an open MG and telling us how he used to play for Broadmeadows under 14s, and the Maltese Own Band entertained the bumper crowd. The enthusiasm was reminiscent of "Georgie's" 1964 Australia Cup triumph.

As the match unfolded, one couldn't help wondering whether Green Gully wouldn't do a lot better if it promoted one or two young reserves to the senior team — a Krajacic perhaps, or a Spiteri.

For make no mistakes, George Cross overran Green Gully in the first half and with luck would have had a sizeable lead before the break. After a couple of long-range efforts, George Cross attacked with a run by Jeff Faulkner down the left, followed by a shot by Don McLaren which bounced to Ossie Latif, who, however, just failed to get it under control with the goal at his mercy.

Noel Mitten won a header in front of goalkeeper Lou Denys, sending the ball far-post where Carl Gilder headed it down. Latif slid in for a shot which went over the top.

Gilder then knocked on a



● Man of the match Tyrone James.



● Steve Richardson climbs above Claude Lucchesi.

cross from Faulkner for McLaren to volley over the top, and Roger Bain, after cutting inside Willie Vassallo, put a low shot just wide of the post.

In reply to all this, Green Gully managed only a close-range miss by Lucchesi but the move was ruled offside anyway.

As the first half drew to a close Denys saved a promising shot from Mitten, Latif missed from too acute an angle, and Lucchesi missed from close range on a pass from Smallman in the best chance of the half.

Latif wasted a good scoring chance in the 40th minute, trying to weave past too many opponents in the middle while McLaren was calling for the ball, in an unmarked position.

Then Latif came charging towards a through ball, but so too did Denys who reached it first and cleared it upfield. McLaren latched onto it and aimed towards the empty net, with Denys still outside the area, but he missed.

Mitten shot across goal on a pass from McLaren and later missed with a low shot after Latif had failed with an attempted overhead kick. In between Williams blasted over the bar on a lay-off from Lewis.

In the 70th minute Steve McLellan conceded a free kick at the edge of the penalty area because he had hoisted himself up for a header on the shoulders of Gilder. Latif ran over the ball, allowing McLaren to strike it just inside the post for the opening goal.

Ken Smart replaced Vassallo on Green Gully's right flank, and Mark Lennon came on for Latif for the last 10 minutes.

Smallman shot too high on a short clearance from Tyrone James before also missing his penalty in the 85th minute. Three minutes after that penalty miss — and two minutes from the end — Gilder wrapped it up with the second goal.

Mick Mikolajczyk

**Syd. Croatia 2
St. George 2**

Scorers: J. Patikas 66th, E. Krncevic 90th (Croatia), P. Petkovski 6th, T. Morgan 53rd (St. George).

Venue: Croatian Sports Centre

Crowd: 6324

Cautions: T. Basic (Croatia), V. Bozanic (St. George).

Referee: Chris Bambridge 9.

Croatia's Guest player and former international Eddie Krncevic was on the spot to grab a last-gasp equaliser in injury time to earn his side an invaluable point and keep the Croats at the top of the Northern Division ladder.

Croatia, riding high on the previous day's effortless victory over Wollongong, completely underestimated St. George.

The Saints, stung by a 3-1 loss to Sydney Olympic on Saturday were hellbent on leaving the Croatian Sports Centre with a favorable result. St. George, unperturbed by Croatia's impressive line-up and the vocal crowd, took the game up to the homeside right from the first whistle of Melbourne referee Chris Bambridge.

Within six minutes midfielder Peter Petkovski's header into the corner caught Croatia's goalkeeper Greg Woodhouse flat-footed.

The goal, set up by fullback Andy Koczka, was greeted with stunned silence and disbelief.

Jim Patikas could have replied two minutes later but his shot hit the foot of the post after he had been put into the clear by clever work from Krncevic and Zeljko Jurin.

The Saints' tactics, carefully planned by master coach Frank Arok, and complemented by the good form of those players entrusted with vital assignments, saw the visitors playing patiently-controlled football which forced Croatia onto the defensive and only allowed it to rely on haphazardly executed counter attacks.

St. George striker Trevor Morgan was in excellent form and constantly found space and time to control the ball.

His partner up front, Roy Cotton, was also in fine touch and both strikers used their considerable skill to hold the ball long enough for support from midfield to arrive.

Young Pedro Ricoey and Peter Petkovski revelled in the role of attacking midfielders and their mobility and crisp passing was a vital factor in their team's attacking prowess.

For most of the first half Croatia looked disorganised and the Saints' defence seemed quite settled and capable of handling anything the home side had to offer.

Just when it seemed that St. George might exert complete control, the Croats suddenly came to life. Jim Patikas snapped a shot over the bar in the 27th minute and two minutes later an Ozdakov freekick caused an almighty scramble in Terry Greedy's goal.

Fortunately for Saints the national custodian was in outstanding form and used his positional sense to thwart the opposition.

Unfortunately for Croatia, its striking power suffered as Graham Arnold, Zeljko Jurin and Jim Patikas were way off target with their shooting.

Further, Zarko Ozdakov was kept quiet because of an injury from the previous day and Krncevic too, carried a strain from the Wollongong match.

The last action of the first half belonged to Saints' Roy Cotton who wriggled his way free and slammed his shot onto the crossbar. At the break the teams went in with five

Man of the match:
TREVOR MORGAN
(St. George)

Krncevic saves Croatia in the last minute



● Flashback to 1978: Eddie Krncevic (right) trains with, from left: Charlie Yankos, Tom O'Halloran and coach Bobby McLachlan for the Australian schoolboys' tour of North America.

chances apiece and Saints leading 1-0.

Both sides started the second half sluggishly, a legacy of their previous day's games.

Saints were first to hit their stride and scored again in the 53rd minute. Trevor Morgan made a long run, held off two defenders and squeezed in a shot which bobbed past keeper Woodhouse.

Croatia fought back immediately but stopper Michael O'Shea was superb in defence. He was ably assisted by David Ratcliffe and keeper Greedy.

With nothing to lose, Croatia pushed four players up front and played long balls upfield bypassing the midfield.

St. George were well prepared for this play and soaked up tremendous pressure.

Finally, Croatia pulled a goal back in the 66th minute. Marjan Kovacic threaded a pass from the by-line to Jim Patikas, who stuck a foot out to stab the ball in from close range.

Even so, St. George looked capable of holding on to earn two valuable points. Yet, somehow, the Saints were forced to surrender one point.

In injury time, a scramble developed in the St. George penalty area. The saints' defence hesitated, and a split second was enough for Eddie Krncevic to hammer the ball through a crowd of players past Terry Greedy.

Scores two, sets up another, then rests

**Syd. Croatia 5
Wollongong 1**

Scorers: Krncevic 2, Patikas, Arnold, Jurin (C.); Willis (W).

Venue: Croatian Sports Centre

Former Socceroo Eddie Krncevic returned to Australian soccer with a vengeance in Sydney Croatia's 5-1 demolition of Wollongong City at the Croatian Sports Centre on Saturday.

Krncevic, guesting, in the first of three matches before returning to Cercle Bruges in Belgium, displayed all of his new-found European flair by scoring two goals and setting up a third.

Croatia, which led 3-1 at halftime, simply had too many guns for the Wollongong side obviously out of its depth.

As early as the fourth minute, captain-coach Vedran Rozic and Krncevic put together a copybook move.

Rozic, with the ball in his own half, saw Krncevic making an explosive run towards goal and crossed with expert precision for the lanky striker to head home.

Only four minutes later, Krncevic combined with Jimmy Patikas for the second.

Krncevic started the move with a pass to Patikas, who repaid the compliment by sending over a fine cross and Krncevic had his second.

Wollongong displayed a

Man of the match:
VEDRAN ROZIC
(Sydney Croatia)

glimmer of hope in the 14th minute, when it pulled a goal back through a Peter Willis penalty.

With Krncevic being allowed ridiculous freedom, the score went to 3-1 when Krncevic set up yet another opportunity, this time for Zeljko Jurin, who netted his first goal of the season.

Krncevic was taken off at half-time to conserve him for Sunday's battle with St. George.

Further goals by prolific goalscorer forward Graham Arnold and Patikas, emphasised the humiliation.

After the match, Arnold spoke glowingly of Krncevic, "a very good player he is, one who is able to take a lot of pressure off Jimmy Patikas and myself."

"There is one problem however. He tends to steal all of the limelight," quipped Arnold. Krncevic himself was equally impressed with Croatia.

"They are the best side in the League as far as I have seen," he said.

"It is a very skillful team, one that is able to cope quite well with the fast pace of the Australian game."

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Man of the match:
IAN DOBSON
(Makedonia)



Allan Crisp

McAdan in debut, Petrov impressive

**AC-Juventus 1
Makedonia 2**

Scorers: Smith 49th, Spink 52nd, Mullen 64th
Venue: Olympic Sports Field
Referee: Ken Small (NSW) 8.
Cautions: Dobson.

Adelaide Juventus, supreme against West Adelaide Hellas and Green Gully in the past fortnight, was jolted back to earth when it could only manage a sub-standard display against Preston Makedonia.

The fluid play of the previous wins was replaced by an insipid performance, riddled by mistakes. Perhaps the pumpy Olympic Sports Field surface can take some of the blame for the inaccurate passing and lack of close control. And perhaps the pressure exerted by Makedonia created unforced errors from Juventus.

Whatever the reasons, this match fell well short of the classic class and left the supporters feeling bitterly disappointed.

Makedonia coach Bill Murray was delighted with the result and pleased that young George Petrov played with the aplomb of a veteran.

Murray was forced to change last week's winning team when Graham heys withdrew through business reasons. Heys had to go to Tasmania and missed a connection flight to Adelaide by a mere 20 minutes.

That misfortune could cost him a place in this Sunday's game against Sunshine George Cross as Murray will be loathe to change a winning team.

The win boosted Preston's

top five hopes and left a hefty dent in the finals' chances of Juventus, which must play four of its last six league games away.

The one bright spot for Juventus was to form shown by unacclimatised ex-Glasgow Rangers star Colin McAdan in his Australian debut.

McAdan, who had arrived less than a day before the match, started on the bench, but was called into action after only 27 minutes when Brian Northcote was forced off the field after colliding with his captain Bugsy Nysskohus.

The versatile Scot went into Northcote's midfield position, but switched to a front running spot at the start of the second half in an effort to pull back the first half injury-time goal scored by Steve Smith.

Then after Warren Spink made it 2-0 in the 62nd minute and Joe Mullen had replied two minutes later, McAdan moved to full-back to allow Sergio Meita to switch to the midfield.

The moves failed to achieve the expected revival and the exhausted McAdan was substituted for Fortu Costanzo eight minutes from fulltime.

Juventus coach Edmund Kreft complained after the game that too many of his players were below top form. "It was a poor game. Preston won because it didn't make as many mistakes as my team," Kreft said. Murray rated the win as a great boost to his team's finals' chances.

"We have been picking up in the last few weeks and we're now starting to look good."

"Juventus face a tough task in the remaining six rounds to gather sufficient points to qualify for the September finals. This week they play South Melbourne Hellas away and in successive games play Melbourne Juventus (home), Brisbane Lions (away), Footscray (away), George Cross (home) and Heidelberg (away).



Colin McAdan (left), from Glasgow Rangers, vies with Philip Trainades at Olympic Sports Field. Picture by FRANK HOBBS.

Canberra in five after two victories



Man of the match:
IAN GIBSON
(Canberra Olympians)

Peter Windsor

**Canberra 3
N. Rosebud 1**

Cautions: Bryant, yellow card, Dunn, yellow card.
Crowd: 810
Referee: Glyn Davies (Canberra) 7.

Scorers: T Byrne 12th, T Sarmanni 33rd, M Lamond 68th (Canberra); D Stewart 37th (Newcastle).
Venue: National Sports Centre, Bruce.

Canberra made it two fighting, deserved wins in 48 hours when it beat Newcastle Rosebud to earn a spot in the Northern Division's top five.

It was also Canberra's first home win of the season, a victory watched by the season's smallest crowd of just 810.

Before downing Penrith 2-1 in Sydney on Friday night, Canberra was even in danger of slipping into the relegation zone.

It led to part-time caretaker Todd Ray Thompson laying it on the line for a half-a-dozen players and hid strong words appear to have worked wonders.

Certainly it has with British import, Tommy English. English is once more finding the form any soccer judge knows he's capable of producing.

Canberra began its march to victory in the 12th minute. The goal came from a neat set-play move. Free-kick specialist Steve Bryant floated the ball into the box and midfielder Terry Byrne, so deadly in the air, nipped between a defender and goalkeeper Clint Gosling to head into the roof of the net.

Newcastle hung in and in the 15th minute striker Derek Todd was perhaps a little unlucky when his snap shot shaved the upright.

In the 16th minute Canberra's teenage sensation Manis Lamond had the first of two tragic near misses.

Lamond ran down the right flank, moved inside and hammered a hard, low shot that Gosling could only parry and it was left to full-back Ralph Maier to clear the ball a metre from the goal-line.

In the 33rd minute Canberra's man-of-the-match Ian Gibson showed great skill and determination to lay on the second goal.

First Gibson robbed Newcastle's Bernard Kerby, forced his way to the deadball line on the right flank, before sending his cross beyond the far post where team-mate Tommy Sarmanni was waiting to squeeze his header just inside the upright with Gosling getting a hand to it but failing to prevent the goal.

Bravely, however, Newcastle still battled and when slack defensive play allowed full-back Maier to shrug his way out of two tackles and shoot into a packed goal-mouth the resulting melée led to its only goal.

Mihalides only partly cleared and Darren Stewart hammered his chest high shot into the net.

But the second half was all Canberra's — Lamond was brilliant.

He scored — and twice was denied — once by the woodwork and once by a great reflex save by Gosling, who fingerpipped Lamond's header around the post in the 54th minute.

But there was no denying Lamond in the 68th minute. Away he sped for what ended in a superb solo goal.

Lamond made pace on the right flank, cut inside to leave two defenders stranded and with his left foot let loose a sizzling ground-shot that gave Gosling no chance.

A JOKE!

The home schedule of Sydney City Hakoah is becoming something of a joke, due to the shocking condition of Sydney Athletic Field.

Last Saturday its match against APIA was postponed for the second time, when large parts of the ground were covered by water from the previous day's rain.

This time the postponement caused added inconvenience to fans, as it was only pronounced at 2pm — an hour before the scheduled kick-off.

This in spite of the fact that NSL regulations call for an inspection and decision by the referee, in this case Peter Rampey, at 10am on the match day.

Perhaps the NSL could let soccer supporters know why these regulations were apparently not abided by on this occasion.

— PETER SCOTT

Liubic hits two in 11 minutes

**Melb. Croatia 4
Bris. City 1**

Scorers: Liubic 3rd, 11th, Biskic 58th, Ward 84th (MC); Carey 28th (Bris. City).
Venue: Olympic Park No.1 ground.
Crowd: about 750.
Referee: Sam Zoumas 7.

The long-awaited appearance of import Ante Liubic did little to attract Croatia fans to this match but in just 11 minutes, those brave souls in a sparsely populated grandstand were cheering wildly as Liubic put Croatia 2-0 up.

Liubic and fellow striker Gary Ward struck up an immediate relationship, one which could play a vital part in Croatia's finals prospects.

And Croatia coach Domagoj Kapetanovic seems to have found the ideal role for multi-talented Steve Gojevic, who roamed as he pleased and in the first half especially, tore Brisbane City to ribbons.

Croatia should have scored half a dozen goals before half time. Liubic, at long last free of a persistent hamstring problem, struck the first blow in the 3rd minute. Josip Biskic, who scored once and set up two other goals, curled in a free kick from the right.

Liubic headed firmly and the ball struck the post then rebounded off Kim Wishart and went in.

In the 11th minute, Gojevic sent Liubic motoring down the left. Liubic cut inside, held off the challenge from Glenn Archer then appeared to try and drive the ball across the face of goal. As Liubic struck the ball from an acute angle, Archer got a touch. Wishart had expected the cutback and was wrongfooted as the ball squeezed in between him and the near post.

In the 15th minute, Liubic miskicked from six metres, sending the ball straight into Wishart's arms and two minutes later City almost hit back.



Craig Mackenzie

Victor Cristaldo, ill at ease all afternoon and eventually substituted late in the game, played a bad square ball just inside his defensive third of the field. In a flash, Lee Scragins had put Peter Carey through but Mirko Runje, what a prospect he is, charged off his line and parried superbly.

In the 18th minute a Biskic cross from the right was met by Gojevic whose glancing header should have been touched in by the sliding Liubic at the far post. A minute later, Gojevic sent Liubic clear on the right. Liubic looked up, saw Jim



Steve Gojevic

Campbell making a great off-the-ball run, then crossed to the far post with pin-point accuracy but Campbell's well timed header struck the bar.

In the 21st minute, Gojevic cut inside from the left then struck a hard, low drive from 20 metres. Wishart fumbled but recovered in style to smother Biskic's attempt from the rebound then wrap his hands safely around the ball.

It was all Croatia, which made City's goal in the 28th minute surprising. The ball was played over the top of a square Croatia defence and Carey headed into the top near corner. Suddenly, Croatia



Michael Hocking

found itself just one goal up and was rueing all those missed chances.

Gojevic had a great chance to restore Croatia's two-goal cushion in the 32nd minute. George Hamish's long free kick from the left was won in the air by Liubic at the far post but Gojevic completely mistimed his volley, sending the ball wide.

Four minutes from the break, Bobby Hamilton, who buzzed about all day, tried to put Luciano Fabrizio through but Runje got off his line

quickly and won the race to the ball.

Brisbane City boss Jim Hermiston reshuffled his line-up at half time. He took off Archer and brought Alan Reis on Frank Mengotti went to right back. Fabrizio dropped back into midfield and Reis went up front.

But the contest was put out of City's reach by Biskic's 58th minute goal.

A shot was blocked inside the City area and the ball fell to Biskic who drove it into the roof of the net from just inside the area.

Hannah played the ball long to Biskic out wide on the right. Biskic gained control then skipped past Gary Bromfield and curled the ball in behind the City defence. Liubic was unmarked at the far post but blasted his volley over from six metres.

Liubic made no mistake though, six minutes from time. He positioned himself perfectly to head in Biskic's cross from the right.

If Hakoah's hot, then so's Monaro

**SC-Hakoah 2
Inter-Monaro 2**

Scorers: Barnes 14th, Kosmina pon 37th, Hosking 2 (Hakoah); A. Ambrosino pon 5th, Wilcox 55th (Inter-Monaro).
Referee: Jim Reeves 8.
Cautions: A. Ambrosino, Barnes.
Venue: Sydney Athletic Field.
Crowd: 640.

Complete control throughout the second period.

When Robertson fouled Thamiades in the sixth minute Ambrosino made no mistake in converting the penalty to put his team's nose in front against everyone's expectations.

It took only five minutes before Barnes flew high to head home a cross from the right wing by Fletcher for the equaliser and Hakoah's attack swung into higher gear.

The ball was knocked back and forth with sweet precision, but no further goals



Peter Scott

came Hakoah's way until Kosmina scored with a penalty, awarded after Santolini handled in front of his own goal.

Hakoah's superiority evaporated with a vengeance just 14 minutes into the second period, when Wilcox capitalised on the sloppiness of the Hakoah defence to slam a rising shot into the top left corner of the net.

Just a minute later a frantic Hakoah rearguard had to clear the ball off its goal-line. The Blues never recovered their composure and grew more and more frantic as time slipped away.

Their efforts were foiled, in the first instance, by a re-



Michael Hocking

ereeing decision, disallowing a Kosmina header which landed in the Monaro net, because of a foul which occurred just before.

The other major stumbling block was Monaro goalie Mike Hocking, who had a great game, distinguishing himself with impeccable positional play and decisive action whenever the occasion called for it.

Both teams had depleted squads. Hakoah missing the injured Farina and O'Connor, while Monaro had Hoszowski, Budini, Brennan, Giampaolo and Titilas sitting this one out.

Perhaps the best postscript for this lacklustre encounter on a bitterly cold winter's day was provided by Eddie Thomson, who was asked what might have caused the huge change in form of his team in just one week.

"I wish I had the answer to that."

Man of the match:

MICHAEL HOCKING
(Inter Monaro)

Man of the match:

ROD BROWN
(Marconi)

Man of the match:

ROD BROWN
(Marconi)

Man of the match:

ROD BROWN
(Marconi)

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ROD BROWN
(Marconi)

Man of the match:

ROD BROWN
(Marconi)

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MANAGING EDITOR: Leonard J. Shaw
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Senkalski loses captiancy

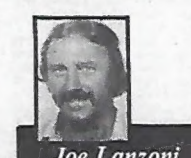
**N. Rosebud 0
Marconi 2**

Venue: Adamstown Oval
Scorers: 28th Carter, 44th Brown
Referee: Arthur Owens 5

Cautions: Boogaard (N) Milosevic (N)

Spurred on by the three Newcastle boys in the side Mason, Lowe and Tredinick and a mercurial performance by Man of the Match Rod Brown, Marconi looked the goods from the start.

Newcastle fought hard but in their anxiety to clear the



Joe Lanzoni

ball they continually surrendered possession to the edger Marconi midfield.

The first goal was a well engineered one that was worth going a long way to see.



Rod Brown

and Brown's chip on the far post was headed in by the out-rushing Paul Carter for a great goal.

Newcastle was still well in the match and almost equalised at the stroke of half time when McPherson fumbled a David Jones corner but the shot by Bernard Kerby struck a defender on the way and was eventually cleared.

Man of the match:

ROD BROWN
(Marconi)

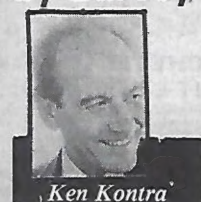
Man of the match:

ROD BROWN
(Marconi)

Man of the match:

ROD BROWN
(Marconi)

Honeyman outflanked by Garvey



Ken Kontra

Man of the match:
JOHN METAXAS
(Heidelberg)

Heidelberg 1
West Adelaide 0

Scorer: Tasios 81st
Venue: Olympic Village
Crowd: About 900
Yellow Card: McKie (WA)
Referee: Bernie Upton 7

Three shots at goal was all the two teams could muster between themselves in the first 45 minutes.

Not exactly the stuff required to excite and warm the small crowd which turned up on this very cold afternoon to watch this interstate Greek derby.

In fairness it must be said, that both the home team and the visitors did put passes together in midfield but failed to penetrate the respective last lines of defence.

Socceroo sweeper Charlie Yankos and his understudy in the recent international series, Graham Honeyman, had fine games and marshalled their defences well, so attacking moves broke down with regular monotony at both ends.

In fact, the first shot at goal (or rather in that general direction) came in the 19th minute. George Christopoulos miskicked allowing Mike Genikas to nip in, but put his shot wide of the post from 12 metres.

A few minutes later, Steve Tasios capped off a good run by curling his shot wide of the top corner.

Just on halftime, Garry Price blasted over the bar from straight in front of goal to put a negative finishing touch to the best chance of the first stanza.

To nullify Graham Honeyman's domination in the centre, Brian Garvey instructed his team to attack through the flanks, and as a consequence, Heidelberg did look much more threatening in the second half and finally broke the deadlock in the 81st minute.

Stuart Stevenson, although under pressure, crossed the ball and Steve Tasios out-jumped the West Adelaide defence to head past Martyr Crook.

Before the goal, Heidelberg was in command, using width intelligently with Ian McKie and Steve Marley overlapping. John Metaxas and Peter Tsolakis also provided width.

Metaxas had a very good game. He never stopped running and his use of the ball was excellent.

Peter Tsolakis, the former Port Melbourne player, although slightly built, is an aggressive young player and given time, could develop into quite a useful member of the Heidelberg team.

This was only his second NSL appearance, and understandably he was initially nervous but gained confidence as the game progressed.

Although Heidelberg applied the pressure in the second half and Martyr Crook had to save shots from Stevenson, Metaxas and Tasios, West Adelaide had chances and always looked dangerous on the break.

In the 55th minute Mike Genikas headed on for Garry Price, but he was fouled by Jeff Oliver in a one on one situation and a few minutes later, it was Price again in action, trying an overhead kick which Oliver dropped but gathered at his second attempt.

Five minutes from the end, Tim Brown came close to equalizing, when his header from a corner kick was cleared off the line by Steve Marley with Oliver beaten.

Australian Soccer Press Association
(Victorian branch)

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Would all present and prospective members please contact the branch president, Les Shorrock, on 527 2808 in order to bring the membership register up to date and to arrange a meeting to discuss coming social events, particularly the 1985 Bill Fleming Medal presentation night, to be held at The Vi-neyard Restaurant on October 9.



South Melbourne Hellas sweeper John Zondorn is carried off against Brisbane Lions last Sunday by Hellas substitute John Kanakoulis (right) and gear steward George Vasiladis. Photo by CARLOS PICASSO.

Now Hellas moans about the linesman

Lions 1
SM Hellas 1

Scorer: Brown, 10th, Bassingthwaite 73rd.
Venue: Richmond.
Cautions: Brown (SMH), Zondorn (SMH), P. Redmond (L).
Referee: Richard Lorenz 8.

South Melbourne's request for a neutral referee failed to prevent controversy from marring its latest game in Queensland.

After being highly critical of Brisbane referee Dave Nugent in the 2-1 loss to Brisbane City in May, Hellas requested the neutral referee for last weekend's Richmond game against Lions and was given Sydney whistler Richard Lorenz.

But controversy flared 19 minutes into the second half when South was leading 1-0.

Doug Brown weaved his way through the Lions defence and reached the penalty box where he was tackled from behind by Lions midfielder Russell Stewart.

Brown fell heavily into the box and Lorenz pointed to the penalty spot, despite the Lions protests that a divot in the turf outside the line showed where the tackle was made.

By this time the linesman was signalling to Lorenz. The linesman was none less than Dave Nugent.

Nugent, who said he was in line with the offence maintained it was outside the box, and Lorenz changed his decision.

South Melbourne was given a direct free kick and Brown's shot went narrowly wide.

As usual South coach Len



Ricky Rosso

McKendry refused to speak to the media after the match but his players let their feelings be known.

"We were cheated," several said.

While their assessment of that incident may have been one-sided, Hellas was unlucky not to get a penalty on two other occasions — both wild tackles on Charlie Egan.

But to blame the linesman for not winning is clutching at tired, worn straws.

Quite simply South did not win because it did not come to grips with a spirited second half Lions comeback.

Lions began the match behind the eightball, having four regulars on the sideline.

But Lions coach Gordon Arrowsmith decided to go ahead with his plan of fielding only three defenders against South Melbourne — "Because they only play with two forwards" — and stacked the midfield.

The experiment looked like failing in the first 45 minutes as Crino, Murphy and Halford dominated play while Lions lost winger Tom McGregor after only eight minutes.

Hellas was given a gift goal in the 10th minute when Sweeper and last line of

JUST 1
B. Juventus 1

Scorer: Cullen 31st (BJ);
Koric 47th (JUS)
Venue: Schintler Reserve.
Referee: Fearn 8

Footscray JUST coach Rocco Ilie is finished with feeling thankful if his side manages to steal a point here and there.

The growing confidence that is slowly spreading at Schintler Reserve is starting to make officials talk about thrashing the opposition, and has inspired healthy disregard for the bottom position that the club is in at present.

"If we had (Luks) Bonacic in the side we would have thrashed them," Ilie said after this

entertaining match. Bonacic, of course, was suspended.

"We outplayed them in every department and created so much more we should have won by three goals," he added.

"We showed today we are a better side than Juventus and (Juve coach) John (Margaris) even said we shouldn't be in the situation we are after seeing our display."

"Going on that, it's John who should be more pleased than I am with today's result."

"I am not happy because I feel we deserved two points not one."

And now to the club that is in danger of being overhauled by JUST in the race against relegation — Green Gully.

"Everything is looking far easier for us and it is Green Gully which is under the bigger pressure," said Ilie.

"They have two points more than us but they are in the position we were in a few weeks ago where nothing will go right for them. We are making big progress and they are feeling the pressure now."

Whether Bonacic would have made a difference is hypothetical, but there is one thing certain and that is that Ernie Tappi finally has come out of his shell and exhibited in this match the undoubted ability we've known he had all along.

The tiny winger taunted Juventus for most of the match and would have ended up on the scoresheet were it not for two good saves from Yanka Banovic and a clearance off the line from Paul Wade from a Tappi cross which was heading for a team-mate at the far post.

JUST pressed Banovic into action in the first minute of the game with Tappi providing the cross for Jamie Paton's header which the keeper managed to tip over the bar.

Jadranko Kodjo set up Tappi

Man of the match:
RUSSELL STEWART
(Lions)

defence Rod Vasquez slipped during a clearance and the ball rolled into Brown's path. From 100 metres and only the keeper to beat, Brown cracked an unstoppable shot.

Shortly after the break Lions threatened to score when a good move involving Richard Bassingthwaite, Jim McDonagh and Phil Redmond ended with John Stewart shooting narrowly wide.

With young David Hunter performing brilliantly as a free floating striker, his older brother Alan ventured forward as the half grew older and Lions was attacking with five from the middle.

The big man found space down the left and took the ball to the byline before playing a hard low cross. His pass found Jim McDonagh, but facing the wrong way.

McDonagh, whose improved form was pleasing, attempted to control and eventually pushed a pass to young Socorro Bassingthwaite, lurking on the edge of the box.

Bassingthwaite drove the ball into the net to score his second goal in as many home NSL games and underline that he is among the most improved young players in Australia this season and a must for the Russia squad.

Man of the Match:
TERRY PATALIS
Olympic

minute after a clash with Mariani with that went Olympic's hopes for further goals.

Barely 10 minutes later a Bertogna foul turned Soper into a limping passenger. Olympic had by then used up its two substitutes.

APIA kept up the pressure and finally, in the 84th minute, a Morsello's close shot, after a good cross from the right, narrowed the score.

But that was its swansong. The Caban-Dounis-Morsello trio is unlikely to cure the attacking headaches of coach Fil Botallico.

So the Provan saga has ended, extremely profitably for Olympic during the likeable Scott's sojourn here the team played five — and won five, with Provan scoring five splendid goals and making several others.

Now Olympic is hoping that Greek Heraklis star, Lakis Papaioannu, and attacking midfielder, will continue where Provan has left off.

Lakis is due to arrive from Athens this week and one can only wonder whether he, too, will be satisfied with the incredibly modest match fees Provan was collecting — about a fifth of what "our own" Eddie Krncevic is getting

TAPAI TANTS JUVENTUS The pressure is on Green Gully!



Peter Desira

in the 13th minute for a shot which was blocked and rebounded for Zdravko Lujic whose second shot also was blocked.

Lujic had a far easier chance in the 23rd minute when he cut inside past John Dowie and Peter Lewis but with a clear sight at goal he only could kick with his left foot and skewed the ball wide, past the far post.

By the half hour mark, Juve had forced only one goal-scoring move when Dennis Bolland spilled an Eddie Campbell freekick and the ball was cleared.

But all that changed a minute later, when Paul Wade chased a ball down the left and managed to keep it in play near the byline. Despite pressure from a defender, Wade swung a low centre over which Robertullen neatly sidefooted home to put the league leader in front.

The lead lasted until two minutes into the second half.

Juve defenders managed to repel three successive shots from JUST forwards but the ball ran loose to Tom Karic who fired a 35 metre shot through a sea of legs catching Banovic unprepared and the ball sailed into the back of the net.

Referee Jim Fearn waved away claims for a penalty at both ends between the 68th and 69th minutes.

Kyri Kyriakoulas brought down Cullen in the JUST box at one end and from the ensuing

Man of the match:
ERNE TAPAI
(J.U.S.T.)

attack Lewis tripped Paton in the Juve area to bring howls of vain protests.

Wade, Juve's best performer, met a cross from Cullen on the volley which went narrowly over before JUST re-established its superiority.

After exchanging passes, Kodjo ran onto the return to fire a shot which Banovic did well to parry and from the rebound Paton fired a shot which the keeper managed to hold.

Margaritis replaced Andrew Zinni with Fab Incantulo in the 73rd minute and the former youth Soccerco came close to breaking the deadlock from Juve's best move of the match.

Mike Petersen crossed from the left, Sweeney headed the ball down in the area and Incantulo threw himself up in the air to send a bicycle kick which went centimetres wide of the upright.

Just before that action came the Tappi cross which Wade managed to head clear on the line.

All in all, this was probably the best league game of the season I have seen and the 3000 supporters at the ground certainly got value for their money.

The point gained in the end satisfied both parties.

For JUST, it narrowed the gap between it and Green Gully, while the draw also was sufficient for Juve as nearest challenger South Melbourne Hellas also dropped a point in Brisbane.

Olympic shuns press

Syd Olympic 3
St George 1

Venue: Pratten Park
Crowd: 3273
Referee: Richard Lorenz 7
Cautions: Barton, M. O'Shea.

David Provan has done it again. Almost single-handedly the Celtic striker ruined any chance St George might have had in this match with lightning speed and efficient finishing.

He played like a class player and was a delight to watch, whilst his goal poaching had to be seen to be believed.

He faced Terry Greedy twice during this match and gave the Australian keeper no chance at all.

In fact his first goal — and an equaliser at that — showed just how deadly this man is. He appeared to have run just a little too wide to the left as Greedy came out. Provan appeared to swing at the ball with his left foot but made no contact. It stopped Greedy in his tracks allowing the Olympic striker to coolly slide his shot into the far corner of the net.

His second goal was a replica of the first with Provan too fast and too efficient for anything the Saints had at the back.

Mark Koussas completed the scoring for the home side in the dying stages of this match after replacing battle-fatigued Marshall Soper.

Soper was again on the mark with some penetrating runs whilst his cheeky behavior upset what little composure Saints might have had at the back.

With the exception of some strong defending by Stankovic and Jennings as well as fine keeping by Meier, the rest of



Alex Vesic

the Olympic side failed to produce the game to arouse some 3000 spectators at this match.

Goals apart, very little was seen to justify claims to top football and much of the blame must be laid on both sets of midfielders.

The emphasis strictly was on "stop the opponent" rather than create an opening, upset your opponent, rather than indulge in a sporting contest.

Some ugly scenes developed at times and for once Richard Lorenz was lenient in his approach delivering two yellow cards whilst allowing some horrible behavior by a couple of prominent players to go unpunished.

David Ratcliffe was seen for the first time as a midfielder and I dare suggest for the last time also. He is not suited to that position and was there to keep an eye on Raskopoulos.

Rasko did manage to spray a few passes but was generally in need of gas on most occasions, showing signs that his injury has not healed properly.

The O'Shea brothers had an off day. Green was certainly green and a pale green at that, while Morgan, Barton and Riccio were hardly seen.

It was almost inconceivable that Petkovski and Cotton would find themselves on the bench in this company of St George players.

Bozanic and Slater were the only sparks in the Saints lineup but to little avail. Bozanic did score for them in the sev-

Man of the Match:
DAVID PROVAN
(Syd. Olympic)

enth minute after combining with Slater. Across from Slater was scissor-kicked by Bozanic and he of Meier to produce vide Saints with the most spectacular opening.

However, apart from an effort by Slater (left footed) and Morgan (after the second period, little was seen of the Saints' attack.

Footnote:

I did not see the opening few minutes of this match. After arriving at the ground with 20 minutes to spare I felt that I would have the comfort normally offered at Pratten Park of parking within the perimeter of the ground. It provides all Pressmen with easy access to the Press-box.

However, I was refused entry by the groundsman — the explanation was simple, the carpark was full. I drove around for another 15 minutes before finding a spot to park then took another 10 minutes to walk to the ground.

To my surprise, another vehicle was being let in at that very moment and by the time I decided I had had enough of this match and headed for the exit, I saw at least another dozen cars that had arrived after me and did get in, with a taxi being one of them.

My complaints in the Press-box fell on deaf ears. I did not request a seat in the Press-box (all were taken) but found some room in the outer ground — a place where the atmosphere was certainly a shade clearer.

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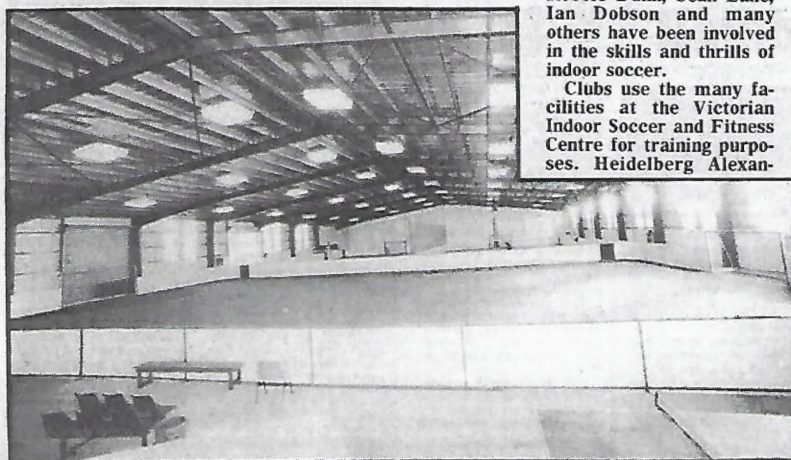
• Mike Petersen



• Steve Tasios



Part of the many soccer souvenirs available at the Victorian Indoor Soccer and Fitness Centre.



A view of all three courts and the warm-up area at the centre.

INDOOR SOCCER

Clubs and top players flock to Bayswater

They call it the indoor boom — and down Bayswater way in Victoria, former Ringwood Wilhelmina great Nick van Egmond runs one of the finest indoor soccer complexes in Australia.

What once was a huge warehouse built by van Egmond's father, Hans, now houses one of the fastest-growing sports in the land. And the van Egmond complex, the Victorian Indoor Soccer and Fitness Centre, caters exclusively for soccer, unlike most indoor centres which combine a variety of sports.

Some of the finest players and coaches in Victorian soccer have experienced the benefits of the complex. John Gardiner, Jim Rooney, Eddie Reid, Theo Selemidis, Scott Patterson, Mike Petersen, Steve Tasios, Peter Ollerton, Gary Cole, Robbie Dunn, Sean Lane, Ian Dobson and many others have been involved in the skills and thrills of indoor soccer.

Clubs use the many facilities at the Victorian Indoor Soccer and Fitness Centre for training purposes. Heidelberg Alexan-

der, Box Hill, Croydon, Frankston Pines, Ringwood Wilhelmina, Doveton, Nunawading City, South Oakleigh, Doncaster Rovers, Waverley City, North Dandenong, Boronia and Waverley United are just some of the clubs which have held training sessions there.

The complex is enormous. So are the plans for expansion.

The complex covers three acres. There is car parking for 160 cars, three superior synthetic grass courts, warm-up areas, changing room and shower facilities, a canteen area, and a soccer souvenir shop which sells flags, hats, scarves, soccer bags, in fact all soccer equipment.

Full club kits can be bought through the shop, as can individual strips, socks, shorts, boots — everything needed by today's soccer player.

Seating is the first priority on the van Egmond's expansion list. At the back of the centre, an area will be split into two levels, housing a function room and a gymnasium. The function room will be available for club or private use at reasonable rates, and won't that be a change!

There seems almost no end to the growth of what soon will be one of the finest indoor centres of any sport in Australia.



Part of the team behind the boom — from left and Nick van Egmond senior (right), with Craig van Egmond.

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SOCCER BOOMS



Nick van Egmond junior, Marie van Egmond, Whitehouse, an indoor soccer under 16 inter-

The van Egmond family spent over a million dollars in turning the Victorian Indoor Soccer and Fitness Centre into the magnificent complex it is today.

Their investment has been highly successful, for the complex now is valued at close to two million dollars. But the van Egmonds are genuinely surprised at the success of their venture.

"It really grew out of all proportion in a matter of weeks. We were staggered at the demand for such a centre," said Pat van Egmond.

"We now have about 1,500 people attending the centre each week. We run graded league competition six nights a week. There are 72 teams playing at present but that jumps to about 140 teams in summer when the Victorian leagues are in recess."

A \$1 entry fee entitles everyone to use the facilities at the centre. There is a \$10 team fee for league games, which consist of two, 20-minute halves. In winter, courts are available exclusively for training purposes for both seniors and juniors but the demand has risen so dramatically that advance bookings are essential. The training fees are \$2 for senior players and \$1 for juniors.

Indoor soccer is an ideal way to keep fit. The sport is ready-made for developing and honing skills and techniques, it improves sharpness and shooting ability, and also provides excellent training for goalkeepers.

Courts also are available for clubs for fund-raising purposes. Clubs can run their own tournaments and hire courts at discount rates.

Daytime is the domain of the schools, which regularly use the centre for sports training or electives for both boys and girls.

The van Egmonds plan to organise a schools competition as well as an inter-centre competition so schools and other indoor centres interested in participating should phone the Victorian Indoor Soccer and Fitness Centre as soon as possible.

Juniors have been quick to join in the indoor boom. Croydon, Mooroolbark, Knox City, Ferntree Gully, Rowville and Scoresby junior teams have used the centre and at the end of the outdoor season, the van Egmonds run a highly successful junior leagues competition for under 7s up to youth level.

Soon a league for schools

Waverly United last week ran a successful competition of its own at the centre, involving about 60 juniors, and next month is holding a large function involving 100 youngsters. The fund-raising potential for clubs using the centre is limited only by the imagination of club administrators.

The Victorian Women's Soccer Association earlier this year ran a 5-a-side competition at the centre, involving 16 teams.

During school holidays, the van Egmonds organise fun days for the kids where they can play indoor soccer, football-tennis, table

tennis and a host of other activities.

The success of the centre isn't confined to its off-court activities.

An under-16 team, representing the Victorian Indoor Soccer and Fitness Centre, earlier this year travelled to Canberra and won the national championship for centres. That team included Craig Whitehouse, Tony Neal, Angelo Christodoulou and Mark Aretis who have been selected in the under 16 team to represent Australia in tournaments in Japan this coming November.

The only area which the van Egmonds want to im-

prove upon in the immediate future is refereeing. More referees are needed and the van Egmonds even have arranged to train budding referees at their centre.

The Victorian Indoor Soccer and Fitness Centre celebrates its first anniversary in August. And there's plenty to celebrate. In less than a year, the van Egmonds have found themselves in the middle of one of the most rapidly expanding growth areas in Australian soccer, which is appropriate, for soccer long has been a way of life for the family.

We wish them continued success in their venture.



Nick van Egmond, during his playing days at Ringwood Wilhelmina.



A sweeping view of the superior synthetic grass court surface, a feature of the centre. Pictures: LES SHORROCK

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Watson, Hennessy arrive today

Frankston Pines' imports, Scotsman Graham Watson and Irishman Paul Hennessy, arrive in Australia today (Wednesday) and on Sunday, Pines travel to Raleigh Reserve to take on fellow top four outfit Polonia.

Pines' coach Danny McMinimee wasn't pleased with a couple of performances in his side's 4-3 win over Fawkner last weekend, a result which probably ended Fawkner's top four chances. McMinimee is well aware of Watson's capabilities as both an ex-Doveton personnel, but McMinimee hasn't seen Hennessy, a striker, in action and may use Sunday's reserves game to get a good look at the 19 year old.

The senior game is crucial to the top four hopes of both Pines and Polonia.

Polonia star Stefan Mila resumed light training this week but there's still doubt about him being fully fit for this clash.

I'm going for a draw, provided Pines can keep it tight at the back. They'll have to if

they're to keep Polonia's striking duo, Janusz Przybyla and Greg Warszawski, at bay.

Box Hill and Western Suburbs also are eyeing top four berths. Suburbs knocked off Falcons last weekend while the Hillmen struggled to a 1-1 draw with Dinamo but at Wembley Park on Sunday, I think the home team will triumph.

In some respects, it's a make or break situation for both sides. There's still a long way to go, but if Suburbs go down here, their top four hopes are minimised.

The key to the game could be Box Hill's efforts at keeping the shackles on Suburbs' striking trio — Bobby McGuinness, Darren Tuck and Jed Stenson. McGuinness has scored 10 goals since joining from Green Gully earlier this year — a very consistent effort — and Box Hill coach Keith Webster is fully aware of

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

McGuinness's scoring prowess.

Andy Hughes has been in great form in midfield and his efforts enable Peter Verchia and Andy Humble to get a lot of the ball, we'll see whether the praise heaped on Suburbs' central defensive partnership of Steve Dimovski and Andy Esposito by their coach Jimmy Condilis, is justified.

Springvale's loss to Knox last Saturday has put the Vales behind the eight-ball and a loss to Thomastown at Ross Reserve on Saturday could anchor Ian Greener's men to bottom spot for some time.

There could be changes in the Thomastown line-up for this clash. Coach Joe Wilson was less than pleased with a couple of his lads in the 0-2 loss to Croydon last weekend but he refuses to say who could be dropped for the Springvale game.

St Albans Dinamo can pick another precious point when it travels to Selwyn Park on Saturday to meet Tommy Traynor's Albion Turk Gucu. Albion import Ken Price made his debut last weekend and impressed Traynor.

"Ken Price will be a great asset once he settles in. I've only seen him play once, obviously, but he's a good player," said Traynor.

Morwell Falcons will be without suspended Mick McGorian for Saturday's clash with Knox City at North Crinigan Reserve and Falcons coach Jimmy Dunne has had talks with striker Ian Storton this week over Storton's recent poor form. Big Storton's a good striker and I'm sure he'll overcome his recent problems. As for Falcons, a loss to struggling Knox will end the Latrobe Valley club's hopes of consecutive State League championships. Dunne's well aware of this and he'll be hammering home that point to his players as they prepare for this clash.

The star of Knox's 2-1 win over Springvale was Filjan midfielder Raphael Under-

wood, who was freed by Box Hill two weeks ago and was making his senior debut for Knox. Underwood's a powerfully built competitor, who will give Knox the kind of drive it needs in midfield.

Matt McDonald resumed training this week after being sidelined for a few weeks with an achilles injury but he's a doubtful starter for Sunday's clash at Croydon Park between the league leader and Northcote.

Northcote sweeper Gary Cutler claims that his side should have beaten Polonia last weekend. Cutler says that one of Greg Warszawski's three goals never crossed the goal line and claimed that Warszawski admitted as much at the end of the game.

Cutler could be forced into a few more goal line clearances on Sunday against the powerful Croydon strike force of player-coach Peter Ollerton, Graham French and Dave brogan and the home side should be too strong.

Fawkner coach Pepe Carraschi used Peter Boyle on the left wing against Pines last weekend in an effort to boost his side's scoring potential. And the evergreen Boyle scored the first goal in the seven-goal thriller.

Fawkner should be able to end its wining drought when it takes on Ringwood Wilhelmina at Smith Reserve on Sunday. Here are this weekend's games with likely winners in capitals.



Graham Watson



Stefan Mila



Mick McGorian



Peter Boyle

SATURDAY
Albion Turk Gucu v St Albans dinamo (draw) at Selwyn Park, 3pm.
Springvale City v THO-MASTOWN at Ross Reserve, 3pm.
MASTOWN at Ross Reserve, 3pm.
MORWELL FALCONS v Knox City at North Crinigan Reserve, 3pm.
SUNDAY
CROYDON CITY v North-

cote at Croydon Park, 3pm.
Polonia v Frankston Pines (draw) at Raleigh Reserve, 3pm.
FAWKNER v Ringwood Wilhelmina at Smith Reserve, 3pm.
BOX HILL v Western Suburbs at Wembley Park, 3pm.

WHITE EAGLES THRASH METRO

White Eagles took the lead in the Cadbury State League in Tasmania when they thrashed Metro-Clermont 9-1 at the Athletic Centre last Sunday.

But the lead was short-lived as Juventus-Pioneer beat bottom side University 2-0 in the main feature of the double-header to regain league leadership.

Wednesday's double-header at KGV was postponed because of the water-logged pitch.

Eagles hit Metro for six in the opening half but found the going a little tougher in the second period when Metro with a little luck, could well have scored five.

Dave Stoddart was the man-

Tasmanian scene with WALTER PLESS

of-the-match for Eagles. Not only did he score a fine goal in the 65th minute, he made four others.

Juventus took anything but a likely champion against University and it took a 30-metre piledriver from Sergio Pace in the 16th minute to break the deadlock.

Katz should have grabbed the equaliser just before the interval but in delaying his shot he allowed Craven to smother the ball.

Broadhouse grabbed a second goal for Juventus 10 minutes from time when he pounced on a loose ball and stabbed it home from close range after Gillam had failed to hold Pace's shot.

Details: White Eagles 9 Metro-Clermont 1; Juventus-pioneer 2 University 0.

Cadbury State League standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	6	3	2	32	15	15
White Eagles	6	2	2	28	22	14
Crocus	5	2	1	17	12	12
Caledonians	3	5	2	23	19	11
Olympia-WPL	3	3	4	21	21	9
Rapid	2	4	4	14	17	8
Metro	3	2	5	19	32	8
University	1	1	8	6	25	3

Michael The Tailor Goalscoring Award: 12-J. Broadhouse (Juventus); 10-A. Leszczynski (White Eagles); 9-I. Parker (Caledonians); 8-M. Goldsmith (Caledonians); D. Stoddart (White Eagles); M. Leszczynski (White Eagles).

Juventus to appeal

Juventus is to appeal against the sanctions imposed by the European Football Union (UEFA) following last month's stadium riot in Brussels, club sources said this week.

The appeal, details of which are being prepared, is expected to be lodged by the Italian club next week.

Juventus officials have criticised the sanctions which mean the club must play its next two home European games in an empty stadium.

The team's sports director, Francesco Morini, said the decision risked causing further incidents.

"How can you keep fans away from the stadium? It will lead to enormous problems in keeping public order," he said.

Bulgaria's top two banned

The Bulgarian Communist Party's central committee has disbanded the country's top two clubs, Levski Spartak and CSKA, following a brawling, violent cup final between the teams.

Three players were sent off and five cautioned during the match in which players swapped punches and intimidated the referee.

An official announcement by the party, published in Bulgaria's daily newspapers, said

last week's match, played at Sofia's Vasil Levski stadium, was a "scandalous, disgraceful event... a shame without precedent in the records of Bulgarian soccer."

CSKA, an army team, and Levski Spartak, whose players are drawn from the Interior and Transport Ministries, are the most successful clubs in Bulgaria and regular campaigners in major European competitions.

CSKA won the final 2-1 but is unlikely to keep the trophy. The Communist Part (said it would recommend the Cup is withheld this year.

The official announcement by the secretariat of the Communist Party's central com-

mittee said the two Sofia clubs and their teams would be dissolved, the coaches would be dismissed and club officials banned from taking sports posts in future.

It also recommended the teams be erased from the final 1985 league table. Levski was league champion and CSKA runner-up.

Though the clubs have been dissolved, the players are expected to reappear in newly-formed teams under a restructured club system in Sofia. The party announcement suggested the system of having four Sofia clubs based on Ministries will be abolished and replaced by a system based on geographic zones.

Australian Soccer



The Olympic Airways Soccer League kicks off each week on SBS TV.

Every Monday, Les Murray presents all the action from the weekend games. Plus 'Goal of the Week' and panel discussions. Repeated Tuesday nights.

6pm Monday

SBS

Bringing the world back home

McLachlan won't say so, but there's been a lot of talk about challenges being made to Gully, president Guy Spiteri and Arnold Langer, the men who, along with McLachlan, led the club during the heady days of the early 1980s. McLachlan's resignation took a lot of weight off Spiteri and Langer.

"I don't think that there are too many people around the club who can do as good a job as Guy Spiteri and Arnold Langer. There are a few mouths, but it's just talk, not action," he said.

McLachlan drew parallels between some of the things he has seen at Gully and the ill-fated NSL career of Mooroolbark.

"Hopefully the nasty people who have come out of the woodwork won't do to Green Gully what the same kind of people did to Mooroolbark in 1977. I remember Tom Bailey, then president of Mooroolbark, being a hero when he led the club into the National League and I remember how he ended up being stabbed in the back. I'd hate to see the same thing happen to Guy Spiteri."

I remember McLachlan saying a couple of years ago that what he'd hate would be for things to turn sour at Gully and for him to leave on a bad note. So did things turn sour?

"I used to think that Gully's supporters were special. But I've found out that some of them are no different to fans at other clubs. In some ways, some people may never have forgiven me and Paul Lewis for leaving the club, then coming back."

McLachlan left Gully at the end of the 1982 season to coach Footscray J.U.S.T. for the second time. He returned to Gully, replacing Jim Rooney as coach, last year. Lewis, Gully's goal machine, joined South Melbourne Hellas early last year but returned after a short stint.

"Paul Lewis has been taking a lot of stick recently and some of the things said

#

Medicinal Rate

Now Banfield's driving cabs

Knowledge is power, or so they say.

By NEIL BANFIELD

THE KNOWLEDGE IS THE FUTURE.

Banfield, the former Eng-

land youth team player, is

now back in Britain, but is

gradually moving away from

a career in football.

"I've been back in Eng-

land about a year and a half

now," he said.

I signed with Orient in

the Third Division after I

came back from Australia,

but things just didn't work

out the way I had hoped," he

said.

Banfield now is con-

centrating on absorbing "The

Knowledge" - the massive

quiz that faces all prospec-

tive London black cab driv-

ers.

There are thousands and

thousands of streets and

lanes and you really have

to know most of them - well,

the ones in the centre of

London at least, he said.

Each day Banfield and a

host of other cabbie hopefuls

By MIKE RENWICK

"I think it could have been

because of my style," he

said.

"The lower divisions are

pretty cut throat.

"In some matches I did

things that you won't nor-

mally see there, and they

worked."

"But other times -

maybe once out of every ten

times - I got caught."

"The trouble is, they only

remember your mistakes,"

Banfield said he had no

plans to return to Australia,

either to play or to live.

"I had a great time out

there, and it's something I'll

never regret doing," he said.

"But England is my home

and I just decided that I had

to start thinking about the

future," he said.

He said however that

there were things he would

do differently if he had his

time over again.

"I think I was a little

naive about what I was told

by Adelaide City," he said.

Banfield has now signed

with non-league club Dagen-

ham in the Gola League,

playing as an amateur.

hit the streets" on mopeds,

learning the hundreds of

routes they will be given a

quiz before they are allowed

to drive on the roads. I

decided this year that

football wasn't really going

to provide me with a secure

future," he said.

From the time of his voice

there was a little bit of

English football managers' lack

of appreciation of the

value of the player.

For Banfield was one of

the most un-English of

defenders.

Short, though muscly, he

was an elegant player to

watch, and for many obser-

vers during the Youth World

Cup in Australia in 1981 he

was the pick of the English

side.

However, his elegant

style, relying on placement

and possession, doesn't seem

to have encouraged him to

English lower division

clubs.

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East Guelph 0.2 0 35 9 14

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Northwest 0.1 10 11 11

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Northview 0.2 15 20 10

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Mason stakes his claim

By ALEX VESIC

Blacktown 0 Marconi 2

Ground: GABBIE
Crowd: 1320
Cautions: Pointer, Calderan
Goals: Brown 56th, Lowe
pen. 73rd.

Craig Mason issued more than a mere challenge for a spot in the national team, with yet another fine display for his Marconi side.

Mason, Marconi's master engineer, was at the centre of all Marconi moves during a second-half onslaught which saw Marconi go two up and issue a challenge to Croatia and Sydney City for the 1985 title.

It was a continuation of Marconi's good form and Mason is certainly the cog which is vital to the side's success this year. He was faced with the task of battling this match out against the youngster who dominated proceedings the last time these two sides met — Steve Knight.

This duel was fierce as was the one between Pointer and Brown. No quarter was given and it was unfortunate that Knight had to leave the field at half time with a serious knee injury. Brett Thornthwaite was no match for Mason who simply controlled the middle of the park. With Carter running down the right flank, Gray, Sharpe, Brown and Lowe buzzing in all directions it is not an easy job to switch play and direct proceedings as easy as you like, but our man of the match did it with the expected efficiency.

Tredinnick supplied the pass in the 56th minute which saw Rod Brown climb high to head wide of Hoare for the opening goal. Then came a solo by Lowe which prompted Daley to do some pulling from behind and Lowe was the scorer from the penalty spot.

The game provided the thrills and spills worthy of the National League standard and both sides must take credit.

During the opening 45 minutes it was even with the Knight-Mason and Pointer-Brown battles raging. Rod

Skellern did not leave Peter Sharpe for one second, while Selva hung on to Gray.

Steve Knight was the early spark for the home side as he crossed for McKie, but the header, by the Demon striker went wide.

Seconds later Craig Mason tested Hoare with a well measured drive but Hoare was equal to the task. Midway through the first half McKie found McPherson with a very weak effort after Phil O'Connor had done well to provide him with an opportunity.

David Lowe faced the keeper at one end after some brilliant running by Steve Knight at the other. Lowe was foiled by Hoare, while Knight managed to go past two defenders before slicing his cross for McKie inside the Marconi penalty area. McKie fumbled and the chance went begging.

Ian Gray and Rod Brown had Pointer to beat in the 41st but Gray fumbled. In the

Man of
the match:
CRAIG MASON
Marconi

dying seconds of the first half it was Barry Hoare again who dived at the feet of Gray to save.

Without the injured Knight in the middle of the tephark Blacktown was soon faced with problems. Tredinnick, Gray and Mason ran riot causing some concern to the Demons' defence. Tredinnick's cross in the 56th was neatly converted by Brown and Marconi on the way.

Brown could have added to his tally in the 88th after a move involving Mason, Gray and Tredinnick but hesitated and lost. Soon after David Lowe was to make amends for his team-mate. He went past Paul Daley but was brought down from behind and Lowe made no mistake from the resultant penalty.

YOUTHS TRAIN FOR RUSSIA

The following players have been invited to National Youth squad training from July 1 to 3 in Canberra and July 15-17 in Sydney in preparation for the World Youth Cup finals in Russia in August.

Mirko Runje (Melbourne Croatia), Philip Traianedes (Preston Makedonia), Aki Kotzamichalis (Melb Croatia), Steve Tassios (Heidelberg), Warren Spink (Preston Makedonia), Angie Postecoglou (South Melbourne), Peter Petkovski (St George), Richard Bassingthwaite (Brisbane Lions), John Panagis (West Adelaide), John Gregson (Melita Eagles), Andrew Koczka (St George), Chris Kalantzis (Syd Olympic), Alex Tobin (Adelaide City), Mark Jones (Newcastle Rosebud), Darren Stewart (Newcastle Rosebud), Alex Bundalo (Wollongong) and six players from the AIS — Paul Jones, Andrew Sharpe, Lou Hristodoulou, Robert Hooker, Sean Ingham and Mike McLennan.



Steve Tassios



Aki Kotzamichalis

Prima Office Furniture

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FORZA JUVE!

VIVA ITALIA! with ROCKY DIZIO

La Juve consolida il Marconi avanza il Fawcner O.K.



Il nostro commento della settimana scorsa sulla possibilità che il trionfo e lo sfacelo del 1970 e del 1971 si possa ripetere per la Juventus nel 1985 e 1986 ha fatto tutto quello che un pezzo giornalistico può fare: aprire gli occhi e la mente alla gente prima che il problema si manifesti in modo che lo si possa evitare.

Le prime reazioni superficiali delle parti più vitalmente interessate (alcuni dirigenti della Juventus) sono state improntate alla massima meraviglia e ad immensa credulità ed erano anche intrise da un certo senso di stizza.

Naturale, secondo alcuni, che lo sfacelo del 1971 non si ripeterà il prossimo anno. Naturale anche che le condizioni di allora erano molto diverse (per sentito dire) da quelle di oggi.

Noi invece siamo dell'avviso che la storia si ripete sempre e che le differenze superficiali fra una situazione e l'altra non cambiano affatto la sostanza dei fattori che fanno storia.

Per alcuni osservatori superficiali la situazione finanziaria ovviamente diversa fra il 1970 e il 1985 e il fattore principale da prendere in considerazione. Secondo noi esso è solo un fattore secondario. Non intendiamo tornare sull'argomento anche questa settimana, limitandoci a ripetere il nostro avvertimento con la stessa convinzione della settimana scorsa precisando che non abbiamo detto che il prossimo anno ci sarà lo stesso sfacelo che ci fu nel 1971, ma semplicemente che ci potrebbe essere ammeneche non si stia bene attenti ad evitare certi pericoli.

Se lo sfacelo non ci sarà, noi non saremo i più felici di tutti e, scusate l'immodestia, parzialmente responsabili per aver proposto il problema adesso che il club naviga a gonfie vele e può ancora apportare perfezionamenti alla rotta da seguire. Staremo a vedere.

Tornando alla realtà del momento, l'ultimo turno dei vari campionati di calcio ha prodotto tante conferme e tanti miglioramenti per le squadre italiane (e qualche amara delusione) che vale la pena dare uno sguardo panoramico alla situazione.

GIRONE SUD

La Juventus ha sofferto le pene dell'interno sul campo del JUST prima di uscire con un punto molto prezioso che le permette di mantenere il primato in classifica, grazie anche al pareggio fatto registrare dall'Hellas a Brisbane contro il Lions.

Domenica scorsa i bianconeri erano alquanto giu' di tono dopo la rincorsa al primato conclusasi la settimana prima con la maluscola prova contro l'Airola capitolina Hellas; d'altra parte il JUST era rinforzato dalla inattesa vittoria sugli eterni nemici del Croatia e aveva letteralmente il pepe sulla coda.

Da tener anche presente che il JUST, pur occupando il fanalino di coda, è oggi una squadra ben diversa da quella che si era impantanata in fondo alla classifica, sia come direzione tecnica (lille affiancato da Buljevic) che come organico (una squadra (sette giocatori nuovi o rientrati), perciò chi aveva visto l'incontro come quello della capolista contro il fanalino di coda aveva visto male di grosso.

Oltre a queste considerazioni generali, secondo noi la Juventus si è trovata in difficoltà principalmente perché la robusta difesa del JUST, e McLeod in modo particolare, ha annullato completamente Sweeney con un gioco intelligente e poderoso. Venuto a fare sulla Juventus, normalmente esercitata da Sweeney sulla difesa avversaria, il gioco dei centrocampisti si è dissolto poiché i lanci in avanti, invece di essere captati dalla testa di Sweeney ed essere smistati in zona di operazione ai compagni d'attacco o agli avanzanti centrocampisti, rimbalzavano invece sulla difesa jugoslava e finivano nuovamente sotto la porta di Banovic che ha dovuto sfoderare diverse prodezze per sventare i numerosi pericoli.

Le ridotte misure del campo, che rendono inusuale anche il miglior centrocampista, e la particolare vena dell'intera squadra jugoslava hanno fatto il resto.

La considerazione più positiva da fare sulla Juventus, oltre al punto guadagnato, è che ha dimostrato di essere una grande squadra perché, pur messa in ovvia difficoltà dall'avversario, è riuscita a contenere il danno al minimo: un'altra squadra al suo posto probabilmente sarebbe stata "spintata".

Le altre due italiane del girone, dopo una serie di risultati positivi, hanno ceduto nuovamente. Il Brisbane City è stato travolto dal Melbourne Croatia per 1-4 ed è così tornato ad invischiarsi nella zona bassa della classifica con solo due punti di vantaggio dal Green Gully e quattro dal redivivo JUST.

La prossima settimana ospiterà proprio il JUST e noi nutriamo poche speranze che gli azzurri riescano ad uscire indenni dall'incontro. Nei successivi turni il City dovrà vedersela con il West Adelaide, il Green Gully, il Preston, l'Hellas e la Juventus.

Ad essere ottimisti la squadra di Hermonist ne potrebbe racimolare 4 punti e finire così a quota 16. Il JUST che affronterà il Lions, il West Adelaide, l'Adelaide City, il Green Gully e il George Cross, ha sicuramente impegni più facili e potrebbe conquistare ancora almeno 9 punti necessari per finire avanti al City.

Il Green Gully, altra squadra attanagliata dalla possibilità di retrocedere, deve ancora incontrare Heidelberg, Croatia, Brisbane City, West Adelaide, Footscray e Preston e non ci sembra abbia molte possibilità di fare i 6-7 punti necessari a scavalcare un Brisbane City che dovesse finire con almeno 16 punti.

Il Brisbane City ha quindi ancora delle probabilità di salvarsi a spese del Green Gully più che del JUST, ma la situazione è molto difficile. L'Adelaide City, che ha perso in casa con il Preston, si trova a quota 14 e quindi ha una certa tranquillità, ma non certo la sicurezza; le sue prossime avversarie saranno Hellas, Juventus, Brisbane Lions, JUST, George Cross e Heidelberg. Impegni non certo facili, ma che non dovrebbero precludere ai bianconeri di Adelaide la conquista dei 4-5 punti necessari alla salvezza.

In una situazione in cui, dal fondo della classifica, le squadre finissero in questo ordine: Brisbane City, West Adelaide, Adelaide City, Brisbane Lions e Green Gully, verrebbero retrocesse Adelaide City (ultima assoluta) e Green Gully (ultima delle squadre del Victoria). Se invece il Green Gully, o qualsiasi altra squadra del Victoria, dovesse finire ultima assoluta, essa sarà l'unica ad essere retrocessa.

GIRONE NORD

Nel girone Nord la retrocessione è semplice: andrà giu' solo la squadra che finisce ultima in classifica, non importa se sia di Sydney o di altri centri del NSW; e combinalo anche in questo girone c'è una squadra italiana in brutta acque, nientepodimeno che la gloriosa APIA che ha un solo punto di vantaggio dalla coppia Newcastle e Wollongong (ma con due partite meno).

Anche se la situazione attuale appare molto seria, noi siamo sicuri che l'APIA ce la farà a procedere sul traguardo almeno una squadra e forse a rimontare addirittura alcune posizioni. La sorprendente matricola dell'Inter Monaro non dovrebbe invece avere alcuna preoccupazione, non solo per la sua attuale posizione in classifica (13 punti), ma per la forma eccezionale che sta attraversando; domenica scorsa si è preso addirittura il lusso di impallare con il Sydney City.

Le buone notizie riguardano però principalmente il Marconi che è andata a vincere con una certa facilità a Blacktown domenica (nel recupero aveva vinto con lo stesso punteggio di 2-0 sul Newcastle) e si trova a solo due punti dalla capolista Croatia e con una partita in meno (recupero contro il Sydney City sabato prossimo).

Nelle ultime settimane sia il Croatia che il Sydney City hanno dimostrato di essere vulnerabili e la squadra di Bossley Park potrebbe benissimo "pungere" il Sydney City nei due incontri diretti (recupero e partita della diciannovesima giornata il 14 luglio), eliminando dalla lotta per il primato e approfittare di qualsiasi distrazione del Croatia, impresa indubbiamente non facile, ma d'altra parte non proprio impossibile.

In questo girone bisogna anche tener presente che "questi players" tendono a falsare alquanto i valori in campo. Provan (del Glasgow Celtic) ha risollevato le sorti del Sydney Olympic nelle ultime settimane. Kravievic sta dando man forte al Croatia e sia Marconi che APIA hanno dimostrato un certo interesse a far arrivare i giocatori dall'estero per le ultime battute del campionato.

LEGA STATALE

Anche se sarà il Green Gully, o un'altra squadra del Victoria, a retrocedere dalla Lega Nazionale, ormai sembra scontato che la promozione dalla Lega Statale del Victoria non interesserà una squadra italiana. Il più serio, se non già scontato, candidato alla promozione è il Croydon City che ormai ha tre punti di vantaggio sul Morwell Falcons che domenica scorsa hanno perso forse definitivamente il treno andando a perdere sul campo del Western Suburbs (l'ex McGuinness ha messo a segno una delle due reti del 2-1) e che in ogni caso non sembra tanto intenzionato a fare il gran salto avendo già rifiutato l'anno scorso quando si laureò campione.

Il Fawcner è ormai scomparso dalle prime posizioni di classifica (16 punti dietro il Croydon) e il Thomastown (attualmente due punti avanti al Fawcner) sta portando a termine molto bene il suo proposito di evitare la retrocessione

(ha otto punti di vantaggio dall'ultima) e perciò non ha ne possibilità né ambizioni di stralzarne nel suo primo anno nella massima divisione statale.

Messo l'animo in pace per quanto riguarda la promozione, è però confortante constatare che il Fawcner ha probabilmente superato la sua recente grave crisi ed è sicuramente destinato a risalire la china e ambire ancora un po' di più le prime quattro per potersi concedere qualche importante soddisfazione prima che l'anno finisca.

Dopo sonore e meritate sconfitte durante la fine della stagione tecnica di Gus McLeod e l'inizio di quella di Carrassi, Lendz azzurro la settimana scorsa ha mostrato di aver ritrovato ritmo, cuore e grinta dominando il forte Frankston Pines per poi cedere sul finire anche a causa di un malageurato rigore per fallo di mano involontario in area.

Pepino Carrassi, contro le generali previsioni, h.h., h.t. ha fatto una squadra ancora piena di orgoglio e smaniosa di riprendersi. Le previste opposizioni dei giocatori solidali con McLeod non sono verificate ed il cambio di guardia ha dato nuovo sprone a tutta la rosa dei giocatori.

Ovvio che il comitato presieduto da Carlo Graiffone, anche se si è trovato in difficoltà inizialmente, ha saputo far fronte alla crisi e mantenere fermo il timone della barca.

Il fatto che la temuta rivolta dei giocatori non ci sia stata va a tutto merito dei dirigenti che hanno saputo calmare gli animi e riportare tutti a più miti consigli per poi creare le condizioni della ripresa sicura a duratura.

Tutti i club, prima o poi, attraversano dei periodi difficili; l'importante è non perdere di vista la propria identità e di limitare esperienze, rispetto ad altri del passato), esserne usciti quasi indenni e in condizioni che dovrebbero permettere un repentino recupero.

E alla fine dei conti, non tutti i mali vengono per nuocere. La pazza corsa alla vittoria di campionato e alla promozione in Lega Statale avrebbe messo a dura prova le risorse umane, finanziarie e amministrative del Fawcner quest'anno e ancora più il prossimo anno. La perdita di ogni possibilità di raggiungere il "sogno" di "prima volta" quest'anno ha dato al club quasi mezza stagione ancora per consolidare il suo assetto ed un altro anno intero per prepararsi alla scalata alla Lega Nazionale.

E' inutile illudersi che le cose non flussino in eterno; è bene invece capire che esse diventano sempre più difficili quanto più si va avanti. Gli anni di promozioni successive nella Provisional League e nella Metropolitan League hanno certamente creato a Jukes Road la sensazione che niente e nessuno avrebbe potuto fermare la marcia verso la massima divisione nazionale del Fawcner. Invece non è e non può essere così; altrimenti tutte le belle squadre delle divisioni minori sarebbero giu' in Lega Nazionale da tempo.

Le difficoltà, superate con intelligenza e con senso di responsabilità, fortificano gli individui e le squadre e li rendono capaci di affrontare con successo più impegnativi traguardi.

Siamo perciò sicuri che il Fawcner è ora un club più capace e più solido perché ha "imparato" a soffrire e a mitigare le sue ambizioni troppo



NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

ROUND 17 29-30 JUNE

SOUTHERN DIVISION



BOBBY HAMILTON

BRISBANE CITY

V

FOOTSCRAY JUST

at SPENCER PARK
3pm SUNDAY

VICTORIAN
YOUTH GAME
CROYDON CITY

V

FOOTSCRAY JUST

at VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS

V

MELB CROATIA

at HINDMARSH STADIUM
2.30pm SUNDAY

VICTORIAN
YOUTH GAME
FRANKSTON PINES

V

MELB CROATIA

at VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED



GRAEME HONEYMAN



WILLIE VASSALLO

GREEN GULLY

V

HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER

at GREEN GULLY RESERVE
3pm SUNDAY

YOUTH GAME
GREEN GULLY

V

HEIDELBERG ALEXAN-
DER

at 12.45

PRESTON MAKEDONIA

V

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS

at CONNOR RESERVE
3pm SUNDAY

YOUTH GAME
PRESTON MAKEDONIA

V

SUNSHINE GEORGE
CROSS

at 12.45



ROBBIE DUNNE



KEN MURPHY

SOUTH MELBOURNE
HELLAS

V

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS

at MIDDLE PARK
3pm SUNDAY

YOUTH GAME
STH MELB HELLAS

V

FAWKNER
at 12.45

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS

V

BRISBANE LIONS

at OLYMPIC PARK No. 2
3pm SUNDAY

YOUTH GAME
BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS

V

NUNAWADING CITY



RICHARD MIRANDA

NORTHERN DIVISION

INTER MONARO v SYDNEY CROATIA

at SEIFFERT OVAL 3pm SUNDAY

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v WOLLONGONG CITY

at PRATTEN PARK 3pm SUNDAY

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD v BLACKTOWN CITY

at ADAMSTOWN OVAL 2.30pm SATURDAY

PENRITH CITY v SYDNEY CITY

at COOK PARK 3pm SUNDAY

SYDNEY CITY v MARCONI at SYDNEY ATHLETIC FIELD 3.00 SATURDAY

MARCONI v APIA LEICHHARDT

at MARCONI STADIUM 3pm SUNDAY

ST GEORGE v CANBERRA OLYMPIANS

at ST GEORGE STADIUM 3pm SUNDAY